

Chapter 24. THE GOAL OF SPECIALNESS

Introduction

T-24.in.1. Forget not that the motivation for this course is the attainment and the keeping of the state of peace. 2 Given this state **of peace**, the mind is quiet, and the condition in which God is remembered is attained. 3 It is not necessary to tell **God** what to do. 4 **God** will not fail. 5 Where **God** can enter, there **God** is already. 6 And can it be **God** cannot enter where **God** wills to be? 7 Peace will be yours *<because>* it is **God's** Will. 8 Can you believe a shadow can hold back **God's** Will that holds the universe secure? 9 God does not wait upon illusions to let **God** be Himself. 10 No more **God's** Son **must wait on illusions to be his Big "S" Self**. 11 **Both, God and God's Son, <are.>** 12 And what illusion that idly seems to drift between **God and God's Son** has the power to defeat what is Their **One Joint** Will?

Note # 1: We must quiet our egoic mind's chatter, so that we can hear the call for God. God's Will is that His Child be happy. Because we are an extension of God, our destiny is the peace of God. Since creation is extension, our will and God's Will are One.

T-24.in.2. To learn this course requires willingness to question every value that you hold. 2 Not one **value that you hold** can be kept hidden and obscure for **that one hidden value** will jeopardize your learning. 3 No belief is neutral. 4 Every **value** has the power to dictate each decision you make. 5 For a decision is a conclusion based on everything that you believe. 6 **The decision** is the outcome of belief, and follows **belief** as surely as does suffering follow guilt and freedom sinlessness. 7 There is no substitute for peace. 8 What God creates has no alternative. 9 The truth arises from what **God** knows. 10 And your decisions come from your beliefs as certainly as all creation rose in **God's** Mind *<because>* of what **God** knows.

Note # 2: Since this illusory world of perception is nothing, there is nothing here that we should value. If we value something here, it is because our ego has determined that we need it. What can nothing offer of value to a Oneness of Everything? If there is a value that we would attempt to hide from the Holy Spirit, it can only mean that we still believe that we are separate and not the One Self. There are no private thoughts. Decisions are based on our entire belief system. If we believe in one illusion, we have sided with the egoic belief system. There is no compromise with truth. Truth is all or nothing. To reject one part of truth is to decide for the false. We must turn over all our beliefs to the Holy Spirit for His guidance. Within our Christ consciousness, the Holy Spirit is the Voice for God. What we perceive will be based on our beliefs and we will "see" what we want to believe.

I. Specialness as a Substitute for Love

T-24.I.1. Love is extension. 2 To withhold the smallest gift is not to know love's purpose. 3 Love offers everything forever. 4 Hold back but one belief, one offering, and love is gone, because you asked a substitute to take **love's** place. 5 And now must war, the substitute for peace, come with the one alternative that you can choose for love. 6 Your choosing **war, the substitute for peace**, has given **war** all the reality **war and war's alternative to love** seems to have.

Note # 3: The two emotions, love and fear vie for control of our heart and mind. If we are not looking through the eyes of love, we will perceive our world to be a fearful place. We will lack inner peace; we will be in conflict or war with our universe and ourselves. The egoic substitute for love is specialness. Although we look upon the special relationship as something desirable, it confirms our egoic belief that we are an individual and not a Oneness. The special relationship makes the separation real. Specialness claims that we are not equals and, therefore, we lack something. As long as we believe that we are not perfect, whole and complete, we will doubt what we are. We cannot have the peace of God when we doubt our divine birthright. A doubting mind is a tormented mind that is constantly at war with itself.

T-24.I.2. Beliefs will never openly attack other **beliefs** because conflicting outcomes are impossible. 2 But an unrecognized belief is a decision to war in secret, where the results of conflict **between different beliefs** are kept unknown and never brought to reason, to be considered sensible or not. p499 3 And many senseless outcomes **due to unrecognized beliefs** have been reached, and meaningless decisions have been made and kept hidden, to become beliefs now given power to direct all subsequent decisions. 4 Mistake you not the power of these hidden warriors, **your unrecognized beliefs**, to disrupt your peace. 5 For **your peace** is at **the mercy of these unrecognized beliefs** while you decide to leave **your peace under the influence of these hidden unrecognized beliefs**. 6 **Your unrecognized beliefs** are the secret enemies of peace, your least decision to choose attack instead of love, unrecognized and swift to challenge you to combat and to violence far more inclusive than you think, are there by your election. 7 Do not deny **the presence of your hidden and unrecognized beliefs** nor **the** terrible results of these beliefs. 8 All that can be denied by **you** is **the reality of these unrecognized beliefs**, but not their outcome.

Note # 4: We live our life based on a myriad of beliefs that we are unaware of. Our ego is alive and well and runs our subconscious programming. The subconscious mind is part of the egoic collective consciousness that made the world of time, space and form. Do not trust it. These beliefs may or may not serve our best interest anymore yet they run our lives. Those beliefs may be deliberately chosen or indoctrinated beliefs. They may be helpful or harmful. Unrecognized beliefs are the default programs that run our lives. Often these beliefs came from early indoctrination as a child. Perhaps we were told we were stupid, clumsy, not good enough or life was hard. Often these beliefs have unknowingly crept into our subconscious mind and secretly control our lives. Many people may have a fear of success and subconsciously go about self-sabotaging themselves to prove they are right. The list of unrecognized beliefs is endless. Questions:
What are some of the beliefs that you hold?
Are these beliefs helpful or harmful?
Were they indoctrinated or deliberately chosen?
If we believe that we are something other than the Oneness of the Mind of God, these beliefs must be given over to the Holy Spirit for correction.

ACIM tells us that our subconscious mind is full of egoic beliefs that support the separation. These beliefs need to be looked at, brought before the truth of the Holy Spirit's thought system and corrected. We, as the decision-maker, have the right to choose again.

T-24.I.3. All that is ever cherished as a hidden belief, to be defended though unrecognized, is faith in specialness. 2 This **unrecognized belief in specialness** takes

many forms, but always clashes with the reality of God's creation and with the grandeur that **God** gave His Son. 3 What else could justify attack **but our unrecognized belief that we are special and different, and thus, could not be part of the Oneness of everything?** 4 For who could hate someone whose Self is his, and Whom he knows? 5 Only the special could have enemies, for **the special** are different and not the same. 6 And difference of any kind imposes orders of reality, and a need to judge that cannot be escaped.

Note # 5: Judgment is only necessary when we perceive something as different from ourselves. If all things were the same, there would be nothing to judge. Without the belief in specialness the ego would have little to do. Because we see everything as different, the ego becomes a full-time judging machine.

T-24.I.4. What God created cannot be attacked, for there is nothing in the universe unlike itself. 2 But what is different calls for judgment, and this **judgment** must come from someone "better," someone incapable of being like what he, **the judge**, condemns. **He, the judge, must** be "above" **what is being judged**, sinless by comparison with **what he judges**. 3 And thus does specialness become a means and end at once. 4 For specialness not only sets apart, but serves as grounds from which attack on those who seem "beneath" the special one is "natural" and "just." 5 **Those who judge**, the special ones, feel weak and frail because of differences, for what would make them special, **the perceived** differences with another *<is>* their enemy. 6 Yet **those who judge** protect **their enemy's** enmity or **hostility** and call **their enemy** "friend." 7 On **specialness'** behalf they, **who judge**, fight against the universe, for **there is** nothing in the world they value more **than specialness**.

Note # 6: Definition: Enmity is defined as: the bitter attitude or feelings of an enemy or of mutual enemies; hostility; antagonism

The ego likes to perceive differences between holographic parts. The sameness of the hologram defies specialness and thus, threatens the ego's very existence. In a hologram, one may focus their attention on only one aspect of the whole. Yet, the whole is there in full view. The whole is available to be observed if one would choose to view the entirety by changing their focus. The ego limits what it chooses to observe so that the whole in each part goes unnoticed. These perceived differences then are claimed as "proof" that the separation is real.

T-24.I.5. Specialness is the great dictator of the wrong decisions. 2 Here **in specialness** is the grand illusion of what you are and what your brother is. 3 And here **in specialness** is what must make the body dear and worth preserving. 4 Specialness must be defended. 5 Illusions can attack **the body**, and **illusions do attack the body**. 6 For what your brother must become to keep your specialness *<is>* an illusion. 7 **A brother** who is "worse" than you must be attacked, so that your specialness can live on **your brother's** defeat. 8 For specialness is triumph, and **your victory for specialness is your brother's** defeat and shame. p500 9 How can **your brother** live, with all your sins upon him? 10 And who must be **your brother's** conqueror but you?

Note # 7: Since we are only an extension of the holographic Oneness, there is no difference between indivisible "parts". Only in the fantasy of our own mind can we perceive a Oneness of everything to be different from itself. Yet, this is what the ego teaches. The ego cloaks the holographic parts in make-believe physical bodies that give the

appearance of separation and of differences. Then the ego projects its judgmental stories of differences upon everything it perceives. We now perceive that we have something that we can oppose and attack without hurting ourselves. Our ego, through specialness, has created an enemy where none previously existed. War and conflict within our split mind is now inevitable.

T-24.I.6. Would it be possible for you to hate your brother if you were like **your brother**? 2 Could you attack **your brother** if you realized you journey with **your brother** to a goal that is the same **goal**? 3 Would you not help **your brother** reach **this same goal** in every way you could, if his attainment of **the goal** were perceived as **your attainment of the goal**? 4 You are **your brother's** enemy in specialness; **you are your brother's** friend in a shared purpose **or common goal**. 5 Specialness can never share, for **specialness** depends on goals that you alone can reach. 6 And **your brother** must never reach **that same goal**, or your goal is jeopardized. 7 Can love have meaning where the goal is triumph? 8 And what decision can be made for this **distorted belief that love is triumph over your brother** that will not hurt you **who are one with your brother**?

Note # 8: Being a Oneness of everything, anything that would deny the Oneness of our true reality must hurt us. The attempt to divide the indivisible into parts that are less than the holographic whole can never make us happy. How can one be content with littleness when they are everything? How can a Oneness triumph over Itself?

T-24.I.7. Your brother is your friend because his Father created **your brother** like you. 2 There is no difference **between your brother and you**. 3 You have been given to your brother that love might be extended, not cut off from **your brother**. 4 What you keep is lost to you 5 God gave you and your brother Himself, and to remember **that God gave Himself to your brother and you** is now the only purpose that you share. 6 And so **the remembrance that God gave Himself to your brother and you** is the only **purpose** you have. 7 Could you attack your brother if you chose to see no specialness of any kind between you and **your brother**? 8 Look fairly at whatever makes you give your brother only partial welcome, or would let you think that you are better off apart **from your brother**. 9 Is it not always your belief your specialness is limited by your relationship **with your brother**? 10 And is not this **specialness** the "enemy" that makes you and your brother illusions to each other?

Note # 9: We are the same because that is God's Will. God's plan for the split-minded's return to knowledge is based on the recognition that our salvation must rest in our brother. Perceive ourselves as one and we will be returned to knowledge. Insist on specialness, and we get to keep the egoic thought system that brings us sin, guilt, fear, the body, pain, suffering, death and eternal damnation. The Sonship's ultimate goal must be the return to the truth that it is the One Self. We are the holographic Oneness of the Mind of God. Only the timing of the choice is ours to make. The Holy Spirit asks that we rethink this decision for specialness as soon as possible and choose again.

T-24.I.8. The fear of God and of your brother comes from each unrecognized belief in specialness. 2 For you demand your brother bow to **your belief in specialness** against his will. 3 And God Himself must honor **your belief in specialness** or suffer vengeance. 4 Every twinge of malice, or stab of hate or wish to separate arises here **in your belief in**

specialness. 5 For here **due to your belief in specialness** the purpose that you and your brother share, **which is the remembrance that God gave everything of Himself to your brother and you,** becomes obscured from both of you. 6 You would oppose this course because **ACIM** teaches you you and your brother are alike. 7 You have no purpose that is not the same, and none your Father does not share with you. 8 For your relationship has been made clean of special goals. 9 And would you now defeat the goal of holiness that Heaven gave **your relationship**? 10 What perspective can the special have that does not change with every seeming blow, each slight, or fancied judgment on itself?

Note # 10: To make holy is to make whole. Specialness and the goals of specialness shift with each passing whim or belief. It has no stability except that specialness is inherently unstable. Anything based on the egoic thought system shifts rapidly over the sands of time. The thought system for the Holy Spirit is stable since it is based on truth, not illusions. The sameness of the One Mind of God is the ultimate in stability since it forms the basis for the changeless, eternal truth of who we are.

T-24.I.9. Those who are special must defend illusions against the truth. 2 For what is specialness but an attack upon the Will of God? 3 You love your brother not, while it is this **specialness** you would defend against **your brother.** 4 This **specialness** is what **your brother** attacks, and you protect. 5 Here is the ground of battle which you wage against **your brother.** p501 6 Here must **your brother** be your enemy and not your friend. 7 Never can there be peace among the different. 8 **Your brother** is your friend *<because>* you are the same **as your brother.**

Note #11: Your brother's truth is like our own. Both your brother and you are unlimited spirit and part of the shared holographic Mind of God. Our brother is not the illusionary image that we have painted him to be. He is not a limited ego-body in competition with us. The illusion that we perceive ourselves to be limited ego-bodies results in constant conflicts with each other's perceptions. Truth does not oppose, but illusions do. This perceived conflict between two equal brothers is between two illusions of specialness that have no reality in truth. Specialness does not exist because the separation is not real. Two opposing thought systems reside in the split-minded and vie for the ear of the decision-maker. The ego shouts loudly proclaiming the "truth" of the laws of chaos and the reality of an illusion.

The Holy Spirit waits patiently within us, awaiting our request for Her guidance. The purpose we share with our brother is our joint reawakening to the remembrance of God. Since giving is receiving, to achieve this goal, it is only required that one brother remember this truth and share this same truth with the other. This remembering will start the process of the return of the Sonship to sanity. By either party looking past the veil of the body, we can behold the truth of what we are. We are the same for we are the Christ. The Christ and Christ Vision are in all of us since that is the Oneness of God. Our brother is our savior and we are his. We are holographic parts in the one Mind of God.

II. The Treachery of Specialness

T-24.II.1. Comparison must be an ego device, for love makes **no comparisons.** 2 Specialness always makes comparisons. 3 **Comparison** is established by a lack seen in another, and maintained by searching for **lack,** and keeping clear in sight, all lacks **that comparison** can perceive. 4 This **lack in another** does **comparison** seek, and this **lack in**

another comparison looks upon. 5 And always whom **comparison would** thus diminishes would be your savior, had you not chosen to make of **your brother-savior** a tiny measure of your specialness instead. 6 Against the littleness you see in **your brother-savior, who you choose to compare and judge**, you stand as tall and stately, clean and honest, pure and unsullied, by comparison with what you see **which you perceive to be your brother's lack**. 7 Nor do you understand it is yourself that you diminish thus **perceiving yourselves as lacking**.

Note #12: Comparison forms the basis for our judgment. Unfortunately, our comparison is based on our misperceptions rather than on the truth of the vision of Christ. Coming out of the egoic thought system, we look for lack and thus, only accept perceptions that are in alignment with our predetermined beliefs and judgments. Since ideas never leave their source, by perceiving our brother as lacking, we confirm that we must also be lacking. Thus, comparisons only diminish both parties and remove them further from the truth of their joint Oneness.

T-24.II.2. Pursuit of specialness is always at the cost of peace. 2 Who can attack his savior and cut him down, yet recognize his **savior's** strong support? 3 Who can detract from his **savior's** omnipotence, yet share his **savior's** power? 4 And who can use **your savior** as the gauge of littleness, and be released from limits? 5 You have a function in salvation. 6 **The pursuit of your function in God's plan for salvation** will bring you joy. 7 But the pursuit of specialness must bring you pain. 8 Here **in the pursuit of specialness** is a goal that would defeat salvation, and thus run counter to the Will of God. 9 To value specialness is to esteem an alien will to which illusions of yourself are dearer than the truth.

Note # 13: When we pursue specialness over God's Will, we are choosing for the egoic desire to be right instead of happy. God's Will is that we be happy. Specialness requires that we see ourselves as limited and different. When we choose to see inequality, we are choosing the egoic thought system over the truth of the One Self.

T-24.II.3. Specialness is the idea of sin made real. 2 Sin is impossible even to imagine without **specialness as sin's** base. 3 For sin arose from **specialness** out of nothingness; **specialness is** an evil flower with no roots at all. 4 Here **in specialness' sin** is the self-made egoic "savior," the egoic "creator" who creates unlike the Father, and which made **God's Son** like to **the egoic concept of the little "s"self**, and not like unto **God, the Father**. 5 **Egoic** "special" sons are many, never one, each one in exile from himself, and **God** of Whom **the "special" sons** are a part. 6 Nor do **egoic "special" sons** love the Oneness which created them as one with **God, the Father**. 7 **The egoic "special" sons** chose their specialness instead of Heaven and instead of peace, and wrapped **their specialness** carefully in sin, to keep **their specialness** "safe" from truth **of their Oneness with God**.

Note # 14: Sin is the belief in lack. Specialness is sin's cornerstone since specialness is based on comparison and judgment that arise from perceived differences. Comparison is judgment based on the misperception of lack in another. Comparison, specialness and sin keep the Sonship shrouded under the veil of illusion. The ego tells us that the body is our special home that no one else can enter. Our body symbolizes our belief in specialness and our denial of the truth.

T-24.II.4. You are not special. 2 If you think you are **special**, and would defend your specialness against the truth of what you really are, how can you know the truth? 3 What answer that the Holy Spirit gives can reach you, when it is your specialness **based on your egoic thought system** to which you listen, and which asks and answers? p502 4 **Your egoic thought system's** tiny answer, soundless in the melody that pours from God to you eternally in loving praise of what you are, is all you listen to. 5 And **God's** vast song of honor and of love for what you are seems silent and unheard before **your egoic thought system's** "mightiness." 6 You strain your ears to hear **your egoic thought system's** soundless voice, and yet the Call of God Himself is soundless to you.

Note # 15: The call of God is always heard by our Christ consciousness. Unfortunately, we chose not to listen to the thought system of the Holy Spirit, preferring instead to listen to the egoic voice for our "littleness." This "littleness" was birthed out of our desire to be special. Our ego's desire to be different and thus, special requires that God make a choice and love us differently from the rest of the One Self. This requires that God withhold something from His creations. Being a Oneness of Everything, this was impossible for God since it would mean that we, God's Effect, could change its Cause. This God could not do since this would require God's Love to become conditional Love. God's Love is real, equal and freely given to all of creation. God's Love gives all, to all because It is all. God's innocence makes conditional love impossible for God to conceive. Again, God's Innocence is the inability to know what is not real. Conditional love does not exist in the Mind of God.

T-24.II.5. You can defend your specialness, but never will you hear the Voice for God beside **your egoic voice for specialness**. 2 They, **the Holy Spirit and the ego**, speak a different language and they fall on different ears. 3 To everyone, **who believes they are special, the ego speaks** a different message, and one with different **egoic** meaning. **Each message is a different "egoic"** truth. 4 Yet how can truth be different to each one? 5 The special messages the special hear convince them **who believe they are special that** they are different and apart; each in his special sins and "safe" from **God's unconditional** love, which does not see his specialness at all. 6 Christ's vision is their "enemy," for **Christ's vision** sees not what they, **who believe they are special**, would look upon, and **Christ's vision** would show them, **who believe they are special**, that the specialness they think they see is an illusion.

Note # 16: All decisions are a choice between truth or illusion; love or fear; the thought system of the Holy Spirit or the ego's: the Vision of Christ or egoic seeing; the Oneness of everything or the separation of specialness. The decision-maker can only choose one at a time for each thought system is mutually exclusive.

T-24.II.6. What would they, **who believe they are special**, see **if they looked with Christ's vision** instead of **egoic seeing**? 2 The shining radiance of the Son of God, so like his Father that the memory of **God** springs instantly to mind. 3 And with this memory of **God**, the Son remembers his own creations, as like to him, **the Big "S" Self**, as he, **the Big "S" Self** is to his Father. 4 And all the **egoic** world he made **out of his "littleness"**, and all his specialness, and all the sins he held in **egoic specialness'** defense against himself, will vanish as his mind accepts the truth about himself, **the Big "S" Self**, as **truth** returns to take **the place of the illusions of specialness**. 5 This is the only "cost" of truth: You will no

longer see what never was, nor hear what makes no sound. 6 Is it a sacrifice to give up nothing, and to receive the Love of God forever?

Note # 17: By choosing for the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we reawaken to the vision of Christ. With this vision our misperception are seen in the light of truth. All illusions fade away before the light of truth.

T-24.II.7. You who have chained your savior, **your brother**, to your specialness, and given **specialness your savior's** place, remember this: He, **your brother-savior**, has not lost the power to forgive you all the sins you think you placed between him and the function of salvation given him **by God** for you. 2 Nor will you change **your brother-savior's Big "S"Self's** function of **salvation**. You **cannot** change the truth in **your brother-savior, which is his Big "S"Self**, any more than **you can change the truth** in yourself, **which is your Big "S"Self**. 3 But be you certain that the truth is just the same in both **you and your brother**. 4 **Truth** gives no different messages, and **truth** has one meaning. 5 And **truth's meaning** is one you and your brother both can understand, and one that brings release to both of you. 6 Here stands your brother with the key to Heaven in his hand, held out to you. 7 Let not the dream of specialness remain between you, **your brother and the truth**. 8 What is one is joined in truth.

Note #18: Within every part of the Sonship is the Christ, our Big "S" Self. The Big "S" Self knows the truth about what we are. Seeing the truth within our brother is our salvation. With the vision of Christ, we see our brother as sinless, which, in turn grants us our salvation. By freeing our brother from the illusion of specialness that we have imposed upon him, we free ourselves to the truth and reclaim our divine birthright as God's Child. We realize that we are sinless and guiltless. We have never left the Oneness of the Mind of God. We remain part of the holographic One Self.

T-24.II.8. Think of the loveliness that you will see within yourself, when you have looked on **your brother-savior** as on a friend. 2 **Your brother-savior's Christ consciousness** *<is>* the enemy of specialness, but **your brother-savior's Christ consciousness** *<is>* only a friend to what is real in you. 3 Not one attack you thought you made on **your brother-savior** has taken from him the gift that God would have **your brother-savior** give to you. p503 4 **Your brother-savior's** need to give **the Father's gift of your sinlessness and truth's salvation** is as great as **your need** to have **the gift of salvation**. 5 Let **your brother-savior** forgive you all your specialness, and make you whole in mind and one with **your brother-savior, the Christ**. 6 **Your brother-savior** waits for your forgiveness only **so** that he may return **that same forgiveness** unto you. 7 It is not God Who has condemned His Son, but your **egoic little "s" self in an effort** to save **his egoic** specialness and kill his **Big "S" Self**.

Note # 19: It is only our little "s" self that identifies itself with the dream of separation and specialness. God did not create the world of perception. When the dream of separation was thought, God immediately responded with the solution. The Christ, which is the home of the Holy Spirit, will return us back to the truth from which we never left. It is the Christ, our Big "S" Self, which is in every part of the Sonship. The Christ under the guidance of the Holy Spirit will unite the fragmented Sonship and return our awareness back to the

truth. Since we remain a Oneness and to give is to receive, every member of the Sonship holds the remembrance of the salvation for the whole. We remain that One Self.

T-24.II.9. You have come far along the way of truth; too far to falter now. 2 Just one step more **along the way of truth**, and every vestige of the fear of God will melt away in love. 3 Your brother's specialness and **your specialness** <are> enemies, and bound in hate to kill each other and deny **their specialness is** the same. 4 Yet it is not illusions that have reached this final obstacle **of your fear of God**, which seems to make God and His Heaven so remote that **God and His Heaven** cannot be reached. 5 Here in this holy place **of Heaven** does truth stand waiting to receive you and your brother in silent blessing, and in peace so real and so encompassing that nothing stands outside. 6 Leave all illusions of yourself outside this place **of God and His Heaven**, to which you come in hope and honesty.

Note # 20: No illusion can co-exist with truth. All illusions must fade away into the nothingness from which they were birthed when brought into the light of truth. No remnant of the illusion of specialness can be part of the truth of Heaven. Only the equality of the One Self is known in Heaven.

T-24.II.10. Here is your savior <from> your specialness. 2 **Your savior-brother** is in need of your acceptance of himself as part of you, as you **are in need** for his **acceptance that you are part of him**. 3 You are alike to God as God is to Himself. 4 **God** is not special, for **God** would not keep one part of what **God** is unto Himself, not given to His Son but kept for **God, Himself**, alone. 5 And it is this **fact that God is not special but gives all to all His Creations** that you fear, for if **God** is not special, then **God** willed His Son to be like **Himself, not special**, and your brother <is> like you. 6 **Your brother** is not special, but possessed of everything, including you. 7 Give **your brother** but what he has, **which is everything including you**, remembering God gave Himself to you and your brother in equal love, that both might share the universe with **God** Who chose that love could never be divided, and kept separate from what **love** is and must forever be, a **Oneness**.

Note # 21: This paragraph clearly explains that we all share the united holographic Mind of God; that a Oneness of Everything cannot be sub-divided into parts for each is the whole. Being a Oneness of everything, God could not grant an impossible request that a Oneness of Everything be special and subdivided into something that was less than perfect, whole and complete. To do so would require the destruction of the One Self.

T-24.II.11. **Since your brother, like yourself, was given everything by God**, you <are> your brother's; part of love was not denied to him. 2 But can it be that you have lost because **your brother** is complete? 3 What has been given **your brother** makes you complete, as **what has been given to you** does **complete your brother**. 4 God's Love gave you to him and **God's Love** gave him to you because **God** gave Himself. 5 What is the same as God is one with **God**. 6 And only **egoic** specialness could make the truth of God and you as one seem anything but Heaven, with the hope of peace at last in sight.

Note #22: ACIM reiterates the warning of the power or attraction that specialness has on our egoic minds. Even now, this far into the course, ACIM states that our attraction to

specialness can temporarily derail our pursuit of the truth, that we are that One Self. ACIM also points out that to be everything also means that we must be complete. Perhaps the term “complete” is easier for our dualistic mind to grasp than the idea that two “things” can both be everything. We can easily grasp the concept that both are complete, but it is harder to understand the truth that two “things” that appear to be separate could both be everything since we believe that they are also separate. This, of course, is due to our constant equating form with content. The form is the veil, not the truth. This is why we state that God made us perfect, whole and complete. We are a single Oneness of everything.

T-24.II.12. Specialness is the seal of treachery upon the gift of love. 2 Whatever serves **specialness’** purpose must be given to kill. 3 No gift that bears **the seal of specialness** but offers treachery to giver and receiver. 4 Not one glance from **the eyes of specialness’** veils but looks on sight of death. 5 Not one believer in **the potency of specialness** but seeks for bargains and for compromise that would establish sin love's substitute, **which is specialness**, and serve **specialness** faithfully. p504 6 And no relationship that holds **the purpose of specialness** dear but clings to murder as safety's weapon, and the great defender of all illusions from the "threat" of love.

Note # 23: Specialness is the ego’s substitute for love. The belief in specialness is required for the existence of the egoic special relationship. Love gives everything. Specialness gives to get and seeks only limitation. Sin is the belief in limitation. Comparison, which focuses on perceiving limitation and difference in form, verifies our specialness. In the egoic special relationship, we come from the belief that both parties are imperfect, not whole and very incomplete. In the egoic special relationship, we attempt to steal something from another since we believe that we lack that something. This “stealing” from another is the ego’s replacement for the Love of God. God’s Son, being everything, cannot be content with anything other than the truth of what we are, perfect, whole and complete.

T-24.II.13. The hope of specialness makes it seem possible God made the body as the prison house that keeps His Son from **God, Himself**. 2 For **hope of specialness** demands a special place God cannot enter, and a hiding place where none is welcome but your tiny self. **The body, which God did not make, is this special place.** 3 Nothing is sacred here **in the egoic body** but unto you, and you alone, apart and separate from all your brothers; safe from all intrusions of sanity upon illusions; safe from God and safe for conflict everlasting. 4 Here **in the egoic body** are the gates of hell you closed upon yourself, to rule in madness and in loneliness your special **egoic** kingdom, apart from God, away from truth and from salvation.

Note # 24: In the world of perception, form is the ego’s witness that the separation is real. The ego invests heavily in making form appear real and thus, convincing us that we are special. The ego claims we are special because we are a limited ego body. The body is the ultimate proof that we are special since form cannot be shared. Any attempt to share form always results in sacrifice and diminishment to the giver. This is why the Holy Spirit’s focus is on content and always looks past the façade of the form. Thoughts of love and forgiveness are real and can be shared. When we share thoughts of love and forgiveness both the idea and the parties are strengthened.

T-24.II.14. The key you threw away God gave your brother, whose holy hands would offer **the key of your sinlessness** to you when you were ready to accept **God's plan** for your salvation in the place of **your ego's plan for salvation, which is based on the specialness of lack.** 2 How could this readiness **to accept God's plan for your salvation** be reached save through the sight of all your misery, and the awareness that your **ego's plan for salvation and happiness** has failed, and will forever fail to bring you peace and joy of any kind? 3 Through this despair **in the ego's plan** you travel now, yet it is but illusion of despair. 4 The death of specialness is not your death, but your awaking into life eternal. 5 You but emerge from an **egoic** illusion of what you are, **your belief in "littleness,"** to the acceptance of yourself, **the Christ,** as God created you.

Note # 25: ACIM states that our tolerance for pain is high but it is not unlimited. Eventually, reason will tell us there must be a better way. We will choose for the thought system of the Holy Spirit. We will choose for truth. When we want only truth, God, the Father, will take the final step on our behalf and return the Sonship to knowledge. We will reawaken in Heaven, which is the mind of God.

III. The Forgiveness of Specialness

T-24.III.1. Forgiveness is the end of specialness. 2 Only illusions can be forgiven, and then **illusions** disappear. 3 Forgiveness is release from all illusions, and that is why it is impossible but partly to forgive. 4 No one who clings to one illusion can see himself as sinless, for he holds one error to himself as lovely still. 5 And so he calls **the error that he holds about himself** "unforgivable," and makes **the "unforgivable" error that he holds about himself into the belief that it is a sin.** 6 How can he then give his forgiveness wholly, when he would not receive **forgiveness** for himself? 7 For it is sure he would receive **forgiveness** wholly the instant that he gave **forgiveness wholly.** 8 And thus his secret guilt **about his "unforgivable error he called sin** would disappear, forgiven by himself.

Note # 26: Forgiveness must be total or it is not forgiveness. "Conditional forgiveness" is bartering. This forgiveness demands something from the other to earn our forgiveness. An example of "conditional forgiveness" would be, "I will forgive you if..." Even if it is conditioned on the demand that they "don't do it again" this is a condition and thus, this is not forgiveness. ACIM states that if we believe any one circumstances cannot be forgiven, we have withheld forgiveness from the whole. This is because we still believe that there are different degrees of illusions. We claim that one form of an illusion is more difficult to forgive than another form of an illusion. The content, not the form, is always the same. Both "sins" are equally false. Being a Oneness of Everything, we cannot be hurt or hurt another and thus, there is nothing that cannot be forgiven since there is nothing outside the One Self. Since the truth is that our minds are joined as one, withholding forgiveness from one part is withholding forgiveness from the whole.

T-24.III.2. Whatever form of specialness you cherish, you have made **into a sin.** 2 Inviolable **sin** stands, strongly defended with all your puny might against the Will of God. 3 And thus, **sin** stands against yourself; *<your>* enemy, not God's. 4 So does **sin's specialness** seem to split you off from God, and make you separate from Him as **sin's** defender. 5 You would protect what God created not, **which is sin.** p505 6 And yet, this idol of **specialness** that seems to give you power has taken **power** away. 7 For you have

given your brother's birthright to **this idol of specialness**, leaving him alone and unforgiven, and yourself in sin beside him, both in misery, before the idol of **specialness** that can save you not **from your belief in sin**.

Note # 27: Sin was defined as an illusion that we wish to maintain because we value it over the truth. Our specialness is the illusion that we value over the Will of God. Our specialness is the belief that we could lack or need something. Sin is the belief that what is perfect, whole and complete could lack something. God created us as extensions of Himself. We are the same Oneness of everything. Yet, with sin, we refuse to give up some part of the illusion of separateness. This part of the illusion forms the basis for our specialness. Specialness is the “sin” we refuse to give up and thus, will not forgive.

Note: **Inviolable** means kept sacred and unbroken.

T-24.III.3. It is not *<you, your Big “S” Self>* who are so vulnerable and open to attack that just a word, a little whisper that you do not like, a circumstance that suits you not, or an event that you did not anticipate upsets your world, and hurls **your world** into chaos. 2 Truth is not frail. 3 Illusions leave **truth** perfectly unmoved and undisturbed. 4 But specialness is not the truth in you, **your Big “S” Self**. 5 **Specialness** can be thrown off balance by anything. 6 What rests on nothing never can be stable. 7 However large and overblown **the illusion of specialness** seems to be, it still must rock and turn and whirl about with every breeze.

Note # 28: Specialness, like any illusion is unstable since it is not based on the unchangeable truth. The instability of specialness demonstrates its unreality and thus, specialness is not part of our real Big “S” Self, the Christ.

T-24.III.4. Without **the foundation of truth** nothing is secure. 2 Would God have left His Son in such a state **of illusory instability**, where safety has no meaning? 3 No, His Son is safe, resting on **God, not the illusion of specialness**. 4 It is your specialness that is attacked by everything that walks and breathes, or creeps or crawls, or even lives at all. 5 Nothing is safe from **the attack of specialness**, and **specialness** is safe from nothing. 6 **Specialness** will forevermore be unforgiving, for that is what **the illusory sin of specialness** is; a secret vow that what God wants for you will never be, and that you will oppose **God’s Will** forever. 7 Nor is it possible the two, **God’s Will and your egoic desire for specialness**, can ever be the same while specialness stands like a flaming sword of death between them. **Specialness** makes them, **God Will and the will of the split-minded, who believe they are special**, enemies.

Note # 29: God’s Will is that His Creation be happy. Our happiness rests on the peace of God, which is based only on truth. We cannot be happy while we believe that we are under attack. Specialness breeds comparison, differences and the need to attack. This cannot lead to peace. God’s Will could never support the reality that His Creation is limited or special since this would mean God, Himself, would also be limited. The belief in specialness can only be a mistake for illusions are powerless against the truth. An effect cannot change its cause.

T-24.III.5. God asks for your forgiveness. 2 **God** would have no separation, like an alien will, rise between what **God** wills for you and what you will. 3 They, **God’s Will and**

your Big “S” Self’s will, <are> the same, for neither One wills specialness. 4 How could They, your Big “S” Self’s and God’s Will, will the death of love itself? 5 Yet They, God’s Will and your Big “S” Self’s will are powerless to make attack upon illusions. 6 They, God’s Will and your Big “S” Self’s will, are not bodies; as one Mind, God’s Will and your Big “S” Self’s will wait for all illusions to be brought to Them, and all illusions that are brought to Them are then left behind. 7 Salvation challenges not even death. 8 And God Himself, Who knows that death is not your will, must say, "Thy egoic will be done" because you think death is.

Note # 30: To give is to receive. God asks our forgiveness for the illusion of separation’s specialness. This is not because God has done anything to you, but rather because you believe that God has. Remember ACIM’s definition of forgiveness; forgiveness asks us to forgive the other party for all the things we imagined the other party did to us. In reality, the other party did nothing that we had not wished upon ourselves. We wished to experience what it would be like to be other than God. God allowed us to experience that state of specialness within an illusory dream. God knows that a dream cannot harm anyone and that this does not change the truth of what we are.

Our true will and God’s Will are the same. The split-minded, however believe that they have a will different from God’s. Because of the power of our mind, we can make-up anything we wish to experience within the dream of separation. We can pretend we are limited ego-bodies that are vulnerable and can die if we want that experience. We have total control over of the experiences we choose to have in our dream state. Our decision-maker has chosen to temporarily order our dream by accepting the laws of chaos to rule our world of perception. The Holy Spirit does not force the sleeping child to awaken to the truth. This would be perceived as an attack by the child and thus, frighten the dreamer. The Holy Spirit would never do anything that would increase our fear. Instead, the Holy Spirit allows the sleeping child to gently reawaken to the truth. The Holy Spirit keeps silent watch over the child waiting the child’s request for His guidance. The Holy Spirit knows that a dream holds no power to change the reality of truth. Eventually the child will have played all the special parts he wished to experience in the game of separation. When this has been accomplished, the child will lie down his “toys of specialness” and will return to the truth the he is the Christ. The child’s desire for egoic specialness will fade away as he once again realizes that his and God’s Will are the same.

T-24.III.6. Forgive the great Creator of the universe, the Source of life, of love and holiness, the perfect Father of a perfect Son, for your illusions of your specialness. 2 Here **in the illusions of your specialness** is the hell you chose to be your home. 3 **God, the Creator,** chose not this **illusory hell of specialness** for you. 4 Ask not **God** enter this **illusory hell of specialness.** 5 **In this illusory hell of your specialness,** the way is barred to love and to salvation. 6 Yet if you would release your brother from the depths of hell, you have forgiven **God** Whose Will it is you rest forever in the arms of peace, in perfect safety, and without the heat and malice of one thought of specialness to mar your rest. p506 7 Forgive **God,** the Holy One the specialness **God, the Creator,** could not give, and **realized** that you made **this illusory hell of specialness for yourself** instead.

Note # 31: We are unlimited as creators or makers. We can choose to experience anything we want. Creation is real, changeless and eternal since it is based on truth. Making is unreal, changeable and exists only in time. Making is based on the falsity of illusion. In

making, we use our imagination to experience an illusion that cannot be part of the Mind of God. We have free will to experience whatever we want to experience in time and space. Yet, only when we are in alignment with God's Will is our experience real, timeless and shared with the Mind of God.

T-24.III.7. The special ones are all asleep, surrounded by a world of loveliness **they, who believe they are special**, do not see. 2 Freedom and peace and joy stand there, beside the bier on which they, **who believe they are special**, sleep, and call to them, **who believe they are special**, to come forth and waken from their dream of death. 3 Yet they **who believe they are special** hear nothing. 4 They **who believe they are special** are lost in dreams of specialness. 5 They **who are lost in their dreams of specialness** hate the call that would awaken them, and they curse God because **God** did not make their dream a reality. 6 Curse God and die, but not by **God**, Who made not death; but **your little "s" self can imagine to curse God and die** only in the **egoic dream of specialness**. 7 Open your eyes a little; see the savior, **your brother that** God gave to you that you might look on **your brother-savior** and give **your brother-savior** back his **divine birthright**. 8 **Your brother's divine birthright is also yours**.

Note # 32: Our dreams of specialness are only dreams and thus, have no power over truth. Within the dream itself, they do have power to bind those who believe in the dream. Since we are the dreamer and director, we can demand that any actor who is to play on our stage will read the script that we give to him "correctly." When we give our brother the role of a limited ego-body that is the role he will play. Our split-minded egoic collective consciousness has given everyone the role of acting as a limited ego-body. The Holy Spirit, however, has given our brother another role. The Holy Spirit has made him our savior. See your brother as sinless and he becomes your savior and both you and your brother become the Christ.

T-24.III.8. The slaves of specialness will yet be free. 2 Such is the Will of God and of His Son. 3 Would God condemn Himself to hell and to damnation? 4 And do you will that this be done unto your **brother-savior**? 5 God calls to you from **your brother-savior** to join **God's Will**. **Answer this call from God** to save you **and your brother** both from hell. 6 Look on the print of nails upon **your brother-savior's** hands that he holds out for your forgiveness. 7 God asks your mercy on His Son and on Himself. 8 Deny **God and His Son** not. 9 **God and His Son** ask of you but that your will be done. 10 **God and His Son** seek your love that you may love yourself. 11 Love not your specialness instead of **God and His Son**. 12 The print of nails is on your hands as well. 13 Forgive your Father. It was not **God's Will** that you be crucified.

Note # 33: The Holy Spirit, the voice for the Father, calls out from our brother for us to give up our dream of specialness and accept the truth that we are the Christ. Hell is not a place but rather a state of mind in which we believe that we can be something less than perfect, whole and complete. By granting mercy and forgiveness to our brother, we also grant this to ourselves. God has preserved our divine birthright for us in Heaven but we must be willing to share it with our brothers. God wills that we freely accepted His gift so that we are happy and at peace in the Oneness that is the shared Mind of God. Until we desire only the truth, we will choose and God will allow us to play the "game of specialness." The "game of specialness" is played in the world of perception and form,

which utilizes the illusion of time and space. Only we control the timing of when the game of specialness will end for us. The Holy Spirit controls the game's final outcome but we get to choose when we will awaken to the truth.

IV. Specialness versus Sinlessness

T-24.IV.1. Specialness is a lack of trust in anyone except yourself. 2 **With specialness,** faith is invested in yourself alone. 3 **Specialness results in** everything else **becoming** your enemy; feared and attacked, deadly and dangerous, hated and worthy only of destruction. 4 **To specialness,** whatever gentleness **everything else** offers is but deception, but **everything else's** hate is **perceived to be** real. 5 In danger of destruction **everything else** must kill, and you are drawn to **everything else** to kill **everything else** first to **protect your own specialness.** 6 **And the protection of your own specialness through the use of attack on everything else** is guilt's attraction. 7 Here is death enthroned as savior; crucifixion is now redemption, and salvation can only mean destruction of the world, except **your special little "s' self.**

Note # 34: Specialness sees all things as its enemy. The laws of chaos state that whatever we have must be stolen from another. The world is a zero-sum game. Because specialness comes from limitation, we perceive everything as a limited ego-body that we are in competition against. The ego tells us that eventually everything else will attack us unless we attack and kill them first. Thus, our brother's defeat is the unspoken goal of the ego-body. Even Western Fundamentalist Religions have made the crucifixion of Jesus, God's only Son, necessary for our salvation. Only by killing Jesus, God's pure and sinless Son, can mankind receive redemption. Our specialness was born from an insane collective egoic belief in lack. This egoic collective consciousness demands death for everything that we perceive so that we may "live" in our illusion of fear. Since God did not make this illusionary universe of lack, God demands no sacrifice from His sinless Son, which is an extension of Himself. God's Mind remains that perfect, whole and complete One Self. There can be no specialness in a Oneness of Everything.

T-24.IV.2. What could the purpose of the body be but specialness? 2 And it is this **desire to be special** that makes **the body** frail and helpless in **the body's** own defense. 3 **The body** was conceived to make *<you>* frail and helpless. 4 The goal of separation, **which attempts to make the invulnerable mind and confine it into a frail body,** is its curse. 5 Yet bodies have no goal. 6 Purpose is of the mind. 7 And **mind's purpose** can change as **the mind's** desire **changes.** p507 8 What **minds** are, and all **minds'** attributes, **minds** cannot change. 9 But what **minds** hold as **their** purpose can be changed, and body states must shift accordingly **to the mind's changing purposes.** 10 Of itself the body can do nothing. 11 **If the mind's purpose is to see the body** as means to hurt, **the body** is hurt. 12 **If the mind's purpose is to see the body** as means to heal, **the body** is healed.

Note # 35: The body is powerless by itself. The body merely fulfills the role that the mind gives it. The mind is the master of the body. The body is the servant of the mind. Based on the mind's purpose, the body can be a communication device to demonstrate and teach either love or fear. The body of itself is a neutral communication device and does not have a voice over the decision of which thought system the mind will choose to follow.

T-24.IV.3. You can but hurt yourself. 2 This has been oft repeated **that you can only hurt yourself**, but **this concept that you can only hurt yourself** is difficult to grasp as of yet. 3 To minds intent on specialness **the idea that you can only hurt yourself**, is impossible. 4 Yet to those who wish to heal and not attack, **the idea that you can only hurt yourself** is quite obvious. 5 The purpose of attack is in the mind, and **the attack's** effects are felt but where **the mind** is. 6 Nor is the mind limited; so must it be that harmful purpose hurts the mind as one. 7 Nothing could make less sense to specialness **than the belief that an attack on another party is an attack on itself since specialness fails to recognize that there is just Mind's Oneness, of which it must also be a part.** 8 Nothing could make more sense to miracles **than the belief that an attack on another party is an attack on itself since miracle-mindedness recognizes that there is just a Oneness, of which everything must be a part.** 9 For miracles are merely change of purpose from hurt to healing. 10 This shift in purpose **from hurt to healing** does "endanger" specialness, but only in the sense that all illusions are "threatened" by the truth. 11 **All the illusions of specialness** will not stand before **the light of truth.** 12 Yet what comfort has ever been in **the illusions of specialness** that you would keep the gift your Father asks from **the Father**, and give **the gift your Father asks** instead to **the illusions of specialness**? 13 Given **the gift to the Father**, the universe is yours. 14 **When your gifts are** offered to **the illusions of specialness**, no gifts can be returned. **Your gift is your faith. Where do you choose to place your faith? The choice is between either truth or in the falseness of illusion.** 15 What you have given to specialness, **which is your faith in the egoic thought system**, has left you bankrupt and your treasure house barren and empty, with an open door inviting everything that would disturb your peace to enter and destroy.

Note # 36: God only asks that we accept the truth of what we are. We are an extension of God, Who is perfect love. Perfect love demands nothing. Our gift to our Father is our faith in the truth. Where do you choose to place your faith? The choice is between truth or the falseness of illusion. There are no other options. Our decision-maker must decide freely whose thought system it will follow. God, the Father, awaits our choice for the thought system of Holy Spirit's. This is the choice for only love. Only love is real and you are that One Self.

T-24.IV.4. Earlier I said consider not the means by which salvation is attained, nor how to reach **salvation.** 2 But do consider, and consider well, whether it is your wish that you might see your brother sinless. 3 To specialness the answer **to the question of your wish to see your brother as sinless** must be "no." 4 A sinless brother *<is>* **the enemy of specialness.** While sin, if **sin** were possible, would be **the friend of specialness.** 5 Your brother's sin would justify **specialness**, and give **specialness** the meaning that the truth denies. 6 All that is real proclaims **your brother's** sinlessness. 7 All that is false proclaims **your brother's** sins as real. 8 If **your brother** is sinful, then is your reality, **which is the truth that you are God's sinless Son** not real. **If sin is real, God's sinless Son would become** just a dream of specialness that lasts an instant, crumbling into dust.

Note # 37: Truth cannot be partial. Either we are sinless or we are sinners. We cannot be both. If we are sinners, then the idea that we are God's Child, perfect, whole and complete must be false. If we are not special but part of the Oneness that is the Mind of God, we are God's sinless and perfect Child. In the illusionary universe of time, space and form, we can

choose to deny our sinlessness but this cannot change the truth of the One Self. We need to awaken from our dream of separation from the One Self.

T-24.IV.5. Do not defend this senseless dream **of separation, specialness and sinfulness**, in which God is bereft of what **God** loves, and you remain beyond salvation. 2 Only **your little “s” self remains beyond salvation** is certain in this shifting world **of specialness** that has no meaning in reality: When peace is not with you entirely, and when you suffer pain of any kind, you have beheld some sin within your brother, and have rejoiced at what you thought was there, **which is your brother’s sinfulness**. 3 Your specialness seemed safe because of **your brother’s sinfulness**. 4 And thus you saved what you **egoically** appointed to be your savior, **which is your specialness and belief in sin**, and crucified **your sinless brother**, whom God has given you instead **to be our savior**. 5 So are you bound with **your brother**, for you are one. 6 And so is specialness **your brother’s “enemy,”** and **your enemy** as well. p508

Note # 38: ACIM states that if we are not at peace, it is because we believe that sin is not only possible but has been committed. Since to give is to receive and we insist on jailing our brother for his “sins,” we are also condemning ourselves to the role of his prison guard. Both jailer and prisoner are in the same prison. Forgive him and free our brother from belief in sin so we are also free to return to our home in Heaven.

V. The Christ in You

T-24.V.1. The Christ in you is very still. 2 **The Christ** looks on what **the Christ** loves, and knows **what It loves** as Himself. 3 And thus does **the Christ** rejoice at what **the Christ** sees, because **the Christ** knows that **what It sees** is one with **the Christ** and with **God**, His Father. 4 Specialness, too, takes joy in what it sees, although **what specialness sees** is not true. 5 Yet what you seek for is a source of joy as you conceive **of joy**. 6 What you wish is true for you. 7 Nor is it possible that you can wish for something and lack faith that **what you wish** is so. 8 Wishing makes real, as surely as does will create. 9 The power of a wish upholds illusions as strongly as does love extend itself. 10 Except that **the power of a wish only** deludes; the **power of love** heals.

Note # 39: The Christ knows and sees the truth of what we are. The split-minded that believe they are a limited ego-body only “see” the illusion of specialness. Whatever we desire will become our own personal reality. If we side with the ego, we “make” an illusionary world in which we appear to be a separate body. If we side with the Holy Spirit, we “create” and align ourselves with the vision of Christ and look upon the truth, which is beyond the bodily form. Love creates because it gives with no reservations.

T-24.V.2. There is no dream of specialness, however hidden or disguised the form, however lovely **the dream of specialness** may seem to be, however much **the dream of specialness** delicately offers the hope of peace and the escape from pain, in which you suffer not your condemnation. 2 In dreams effect and cause are interchanged, for here **in dreams** the maker of the dream believes that what he made, **the dream**, is happening to him. 3 **The maker of the dream** does not realize he picked a thread from here, a scrap from there, and wove a picture out of nothing. 4 For the parts **of the dream** do not belong together, and the whole **dream** contributes nothing to the parts to give **the dream** meaning.

Note # 40: No matter what form a dream takes, it has no power to change the truth and, therefore, is meaningless. A happy dream is still an illusion that must eventually give way to truth. ACIM states that we, the dreamer of the dream of separation, have forgotten that we are the original writer of the script for the game of separation. Since we are the screenwriter, we can choose again and rewrite the story's ending at any time to reflect the truth of what we are, unlimited spirit. As long as we have forgotten that we are the cause or source of the dream, we will fail to recognize that we have control over the dream and can choose to change the dream at anytime. Instead, we will reverse roles and allow the dream to become the apparent cause and we the apparent effect of the dream.

T-24.V.3. Where could your peace arise <but> from forgiveness? 2 The Christ in you looks only on the truth, and sees no condemnation that could need forgiveness. 3 **The Christ** is at peace <because> **the Christ** sees no sin. 4 Identify with **the Christ** and what has **the Christ** that you have not? 5 **The Christ** is your eyes, your ears, your hands, your feet. 6 How gentle are the sights **the Christ** sees, the sounds **the Christ** hears. 7 How beautiful **the Christ's** hand that holds His brother's, and how lovingly **the Christ** walks beside **his brother**, showing **his brother** what can be seen and heard, and where **his brother** will see nothing and there is no sound to hear.

Note # 41: We, like all our brothers of the Sonship, abide in Christ. We have just chosen to forget this fact. Realize that we are the Christ and we will see the Christ in everything. Christ vision looks through the illusionary veil of form to recognize the lesson that only love is real. Forgiveness reigns supreme since nothing real can be threatened and nothing unreal exists. There is only the One Self. The illusion of the egoic universe is forgiven as it fades away before the light of this truth.

T-24.V.4. Yet let your specialness direct **his brother's** way, and you will follow **down the path of egoic specialness.** 2 And both **you and your brother** will walk in danger, each intent, in the dark forest of the sightless, unlit but by the shifting tiny gleams that spark an instant from the fireflies of sin and then go out, to lead the other to a nameless precipice and hurl **the other** over **the nameless precipice.** 3 For what can specialness delight in but to kill? 4 What does **specialness** seek for but the sight of death? 5 Where does **specialness** lead but to destruction? 6 Yet think not that **specialness** looked upon your brother first, nor hated **your brother** before **specialness** hated you. 7 The sin **the eyes of specialness** behold in **your brother** and love to look upon, **the eyes of specialness first** saw **this same sin** in you, and **specialness** looks on **this sin** still with joy. 8 Yet is it joy to look upon decay and madness, and believe this crumbling **egoic bodily** thing, with flesh already loosened from the bone and sightless holes for eyes, is like yourself, **the Christ?**
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Note # 42: Follow the egoic thought system and we follow the path of specialness. We get to believe that we are limited ego-bodies in competition with other ego-bodies. Identify ourselves as the body instead of the Christ and we get to play the game of limitation, separation and specialness. The choice is always made by our free will.

T-24.V.5. Rejoice you have no **egoic** eyes with which to see; no **egoic** ears to listen, and no **egoic** hands to hold nor **egoic** feet to guide. 2 Be glad that only Christ can lend you His **eyes, ears, hands and feet**, while you have need of **the Christ's eyes, ears hands and**

feet. 3 **Christ's eyes, ears, hands and feet** are illusions, too, as much as your **egoic eyes, ears, hands and feet** are. 4 And yet because **Christ's eyes, ears, hands and feet** serve a different purpose, **which is the return to truth**, the strength **that the return to truth's** purpose holds is given **Christ's eyes, ears, hands and feet**. 5 And what **Christ's eyes, ears hands and feet** see and hear and hold and lead is given light, that you may lead **your brother** as you were led.

Note # 43: All we need to do is ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and He will access the Christ within us. When we choose to forgive our brother and see our brother as sinless, we are utilizing the Christ within. Having the vision of Christ, we will give this same vision to our brother for we can only give what we have.

T-24.V.6. The Christ in you is very still. 2 **The Christ in you** knows where you are going, and **the Christ in you** leads you **where you are going** in gentleness and blessing all the way. 3 **The Christ's** love for God replaces all the fear you **egoically** thought you saw within yourself. 4 **God's** Holiness shows you Himself, in **your brother** whose hand you hold, and whom you lead to **God**. 5 And what you see is like yourself, **the Christ**. 6 For what but Christ is there to see and hear and love and follow home? 7 **The Christ in you** looked upon you first, but recognized that you, **who perceived yourself to be a limited ego-body**, were not complete. 8 And so **the Christ in you** sought for your completion in each living thing that **the Christ in you** beholds and loves. 9 And **the Christ in you** seeks **for your completion** still, that each **living thing** might offer you the Love of God.

Note # 44: Our true identity is the Oneness of the Christ. Being the Christ, we cannot be happy unless we are fulfilling our divine purpose, which is the extension of love. The Christ, coupled with our guide, the Holy Spirit, is constantly seeking our return to the knowledge of the truth that we are a Oneness in the Mind of God. Only with the return of truth, can we take our rightful place as co-creators with our Father.

T-24.V.7. Yet is **the Christ in you** quiet, for **the Christ in you** knows that love is in you now, and **that love is** safely held in you by that same hand of **Christ** that holds your brother's **hand** in your own **hand**. 2 Christ's hand holds all His brothers in Himself, **the Christ** 3 **The Christ** gives **the fragmented Sonship** vision for their sightless eyes, and **the Christ** sings to **the fragmented Sonship** of Heaven, that **the fragmented Sonship's** ears may hear no more the sound of battle and of death. 4 **The Christ** reaches through **the sight and sound of battle and death** holding out **Christ's** hand, that everyone may bless all living things, and see their holiness. 5 And **the Christ** rejoices that these sights are **your sights** to look upon with **the Christ** and share **the Christ's** joy. 6 **The Christ's** perfect lack of specialness **the Christ** offers you **this same perfect lack in specialness** so that you may save all living things from death, receiving from each **living thing** the gift of life that your forgiveness offers to your **Big "S" Self, which is the Christ in you**. 7 The sight of Christ is all there is to see. 8 The song of Christ is all there is to hear. 9 The hand of Christ is all there is to hold. 10 There is no journey but to walk with **the Christ**.

Note # 45: In the reality of Heaven, there is only the truth of the Oneness of Christ. ACIM states that the Christ is the home of the Father, the Sonship, the Holy Spirit, you and your brother. Christ is the home of the One Self. There is nothing outside the Christ for the Christ is the Oneness of God.

T-24.V.8. You who would be content with specialness, and seek salvation in a war with love, consider this: **God**, the holy Lord of Heaven, has Himself come down to you, **who would be content with specialness**, to offer you, **who would be content with specialness**, your own completion. 2 What is **God, the Father's** is yours because in your completion is **God's Own completion**. 3 **God, the Father**, Who willed not to be without His Son could never will that you be brotherless. 4 And would **God, the Father** give a brother unto you except **a brother that** be as perfect as yourself, and just as like to **God, the Father** in holiness as you must be **to God, the Father in your holiness?** p510

Note # 46: Creation is extension. All that God willed is also our will. Love must be shared. God shares His Love with us and to demonstrate that we are like our Creator, we also seek to share our love with everything, which includes the Sonship and our co-creations.

T-24.V.9. There must be doubt before there can be conflict. 2 And every doubt must be about yourself. 3 Christ has no doubt, and from **the Christ's** certainty **the Christ's** quiet comes. 4 **The Christ** will exchange His certainty for all your doubts, if you agree that **the Christ** is One with you, and that this Oneness is endless, timeless, and within your grasp because your hands are **the hands of Christ**. 5 **The Christ** is within you, yet **the Christ** walks beside you and before, leading the way that **the Christ** must go to find Himself, **the Christ**, complete. 6 **The Christ's** quietness becomes your certainty. 7 And where is doubt when certainty has come?

Note # 47: When we first questioned or doubted what we are, it was the beginning of the separation. We constantly doubt that we are the perfect extension of the Oneness of the Creator. We are constantly attempting to fragment the Oneness so that we can compare and judge the indivisible parts. In a hologram, each part contains the whole and the whole contains each part. A rock just is. A tree goes about its job of "treeing". A tree does not wake up one day and deny that it is a tree. A tree is certain that it is a tree. We, however, have lost that certainty. We no longer live in the now, instead we live in our past judgments and misperceptions. We claim that we are something other than the truth. The Christ, Who knows the truth, has never lost sight of the truth. By asking for the Holy Spirit's guidance, we can stop the egoic chatter and once again remember the call for God that resides in the Christ.

VI. Salvation from Fear

T-24.VI.1. Before your brother's holiness the world is still, and peace descends on **the world** in gentleness and blessing so complete that not one trace of conflict still remains to haunt you in the darkness of the night. 2 **Your brother's holiness** is your savior from the dreams of fear. 3 **Your brother's holiness** is the healing of your sense of sacrifice and fear that what you have will scatter with the wind and turn to dust. 4 In **your brother** is your assurance God is here, and with you now. 5 While **your brother** is what he is, you can be sure that God is knowable and will be known to you. 6 For **God** could never leave His Own creation. 7 And the sign that **God could never leave His Own creation** is so lies in your brother, offered you that all your doubts about yourself may disappear before **your brother's** holiness. 8 See in **your brother** God's creation. 9 For in **your brother** his Father waits for your acknowledgment that **God, the Father** created you as part of **God Himself**.

Note # 48: God knows His Creation as a perfect extension of Himself. This perfect Oneness is shared with all. By recognizing this in another, we recognize it in ourselves. To give is to receive and what we believe becomes our apparent reality.

T-24.VI.2. Without you there would be a lack in God, a Heaven incomplete, a Son without a Father. 2 **Without you** there could be no universe and no reality. 3 For what God wills is whole, and part of **God** because His Will is One. 4 **There is** nothing alive that is not part of **God**, and **there is** nothing **that** is but **what** is alive in **God**. 5 Your brother's holiness shows you that God is One with **your brother** and you; that what **your brother** has is yours because you are not separate from **your brother** nor from **your brother's** Father.

Note # 49: Again, ACIM points out that our shared unity is the Oneness of everything, which is the Shared Mind of God. We are our brothers and our brothers are us. There is no separation since form is but an illusion that cannot change the content, which is the truth that we are unlimited spirit. There is only love and we are that One.

T-24.VI.3. Nothing is lost to you in all the universe. 2 Nothing that God created has **God** failed to lay before you lovingly, as yours forever. 3 And no Thought within **God's** Mind is absent from your own **mind**. 4 It is **God's** Will you share **God's** Love for you, and look upon yourself as lovingly as **God** conceived of you before the world began, and as **God** knows you still. 5 God changes not His Mind about His Son with passing circumstance which has no meaning in eternity where **God** abides, and you **abide** with **God**. 6 Your brother *<is>* as **God** created **your brother**. p511 7 And it is this **remaining of your brother as God created him** that saves you from **an egoic** world that **God** created not.

Note # 50: An effect cannot change its source. God only knows the truth. Our denial of the truth that we are something other than a Oneness has not changed what the Father knows to be our true identity. The Mind of God is changeless and eternal. The world of perception is one of time and space. It is not changeless or eternal. Perception is not part of the Mind of God. This illusionary world of time, space and form was made by our egoic collective consciousness. God did not make the false world of the ego. God only knows the eternal truth The Father recognizes and knows his Son as the awakened Christ. God does not identify His Child with what the child may dream that he is. The truth is always preserved for us within the Mind of God. It is only a matter of time before we tire of the game of specialness and return to the truth that our will and God's Will are the same.

T-24.VI.4. Forget not that the healing of God's Son is all the world of **perception, time and space** is for. 2 That **the healing of God's Son is all that the world of perception** is for is the only purpose the Holy Spirit sees in **the world of perception**, and thus the only one **purpose the world of perception** has. 3 Until you see the healing of the Son as all you wish to be accomplished by the world of **perception**, by time and all appearances, you will not know the Father nor yourself. 4 For **until your see the purpose of the world to be only the healing of the Sonship**, you will use the world for what is not **the world's** purpose, and will not escape **the world of perception's** laws of violence and death. 5 Yet it is given you to be beyond **the world of perception's** laws in all respects, in every way and

every circumstance. **It is given you to be beyond the world of perception's laws** in all temptation to perceive what is not there, and **to go beyond and correct** all belief God's Son can suffer pain because **God's Son** sees himself as he is not.

Note # 51: We need to choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit rather than the ego's. The ego sees the purpose of the world of perception to be the proof that the separation is real and that specialness exists. The Holy Spirit sees the world as a place to heal the split-minded and thus, return us to sanity and the remembrance of God, the One Self. Forgiveness heals our split-mind. Unless we change our allegiance to the Holy Spirit's thought system, we will continue to perceive the world as the witness for separation and specialness.

T-24.VI.5. Look on your brother, and behold in **your brother** the whole reversal of the laws of **chaos, violence and death** that seem to rule this world of **perception**. 2 See in **your brother's freedom your freedom**, for such **your brother's freedom** is. 3 Let not **your brother's** specialness obscure the truth in **your brother**, for not one law of death **that you bind your brothers** to will you escape. 4 And not one sin you see in **your brother** but keeps you both in hell. 5 Yet will **your brother** his perfect sinlessness release **and you both are released**, for holiness is quite impartial, with one judgment made for all **holiness** looks upon. 6 And that **one judgment of the sinlessness of your brother** is made **for all holiness**, not of itself, but through the Voice that speaks for God in everything that lives and shares **God's Being**.

Note # 52: The Holy Spirit is the Voice that speaks for God in everything that lives and shares God's Being. The Holy Spirit reinterprets all that we perceive based on the purpose of the healing of the Sonship. The Holy Spirit obeys the Laws of God. The Laws of God are the opposite of the laws of chaos that run the world of egoic perception and the egoic thought system of specialness and limitation. The Laws of God understand that only love is real and that to give is to receive. The Laws of God state that parts are indivisible and that any part is the complete whole. Thus, there is only a holographic Oneness.

T-24.VI.6. It is **your sinlessness brother's Big "S" Self** that eyes that see **with Christ vision** can look upon. 2 It is **the Christ's** loveliness they see in everything **with Christ vision**. 3 And it is **the Christ** they **with Christ vision** look for everywhere, and find no sight nor place nor time where **the Christ** is not. 4 Within your brother's holiness, the perfect frame for your salvation and the world's **salvation** is set the shining memory of Him, **the Christ** in Whom your brother lives, and **the Christ in Whom** you **live** along with **your brother**. 5 Let not your eyes be blinded by the veil of specialness that hides the face of Christ from **your brother**, and **hides the face of Christ from** you as well. 6 And let the fear of God no longer hold the vision you were meant to see from you. 7 Your brother's body shows not Christ to you. 8 **The Christ** *<is>* set forth within **your brother's** holiness.

Note # 53: If we call upon the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will be able to look past the body form and see the Christ in all. The gift of Christ's Vision is given when we ask. We must learn to control our egoic fears long enough to have the presences of mind to ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance.

This paragraph also demonstrates the all inclusiveness of the Christ. Both our brothers and we are joined in the Oneness of the Christ

T-24.VI.7. Choose, then, **your brother's** body or **your brother's** holiness as what you want to see, and which you choose is yours to look upon. 2 Yet will you choose **to see either your brother's body or his holiness** in countless situations, and through time that seems to have no end, until the truth be your decision **and you choose to see only his holiness.** 3 For eternity is not regained by still one more denial of Christ in **your brother.** 4 And where is your salvation, if **your brother** is but a body? 5 Where is your peace but in **your brother's** holiness? 6 And where is God Himself but in that part of Him, **the Christ, God** set forever in your brother's holiness, that you might see the truth about yourself, set forth at last in terms you recognized and understood? p512

Note # 54: Salvation is one choice away. This choice must be to accept only the truth. We cannot hold one illusion without denying the truth of the Oneness of everything. In time and space, we will continue to be presented opportunities to choose again until we freely choose only for the truth. When we do this, we reject any remaining belief in specialness. We remember God and with the vision of Christ see God in everything.

T-24.VI.8. Your brother's holiness is sacrament and benediction unto you. 2 **Your brother's** errors cannot withhold God's blessing from **your brother**, nor **can your brother's errors withhold the blessing** you who see **your brother** truly give. 3 **Your brother's** mistakes can cause delay, which it is given you to take from **your brother his mistakes** that both **you and your brother** may end a journey that has never begun, and needs no end. 4 What never was, **the separation** is not a part of you. 5 Yet you will think **the separation is a part of you** until you realize that **the separation** is not a part of **your brother** who stands beside you. 6 **Your brother** is the mirror of yourself, wherein you see the judgment you have laid on both you and **your brother.** 7 The Christ in you beholds **your brother's** holiness. 8 Your **egoic** specialness looks on **your brother's** body and beholds **your brother, the Christ,** not.

Note # 55: Projection always results in “seeing” the thoughts that are already inside our mind by noting what our mind orders our physical eyes to selectively “observe” outside of our own mind. Thoughts never leave their source. How we perceive our brother is how we perceive ourselves. Our brother is either perceived is sinless or sinful. There is no other choice. This choice between our brother's sin or sinlessness becomes our own perception about ourselves.

T-24.VI.9. See **your brother** as what **your brother** is, **which is the Christ,** so that your deliverance may not be long. 2 A senseless wandering, without a purpose and without accomplishment of any kind, is all the other choice **for the ego's specialness** can offer you. 3 Futility of function not fulfilled will haunt you while your brother lies asleep, till what has been assigned to you, **which is your granting your brother his forgiveness and salvation** is done and **your brother** is risen from the past. 4 **Your brother** who condemned himself, and you as well, is given you to save from condemnation, along with you. 5 And both **you and your brother** shall see God's glory in **God's Son,** whom you mistook as flesh, and bound to **the laws of chaos, violence and death** that have no power over **your brother's Big “S” Self** at all.

Note # 56: The laws of chaos apply to the world of time and perception only if we wish them to. Our decision-maker must decide if the ego's or the Holy Spirit's rules will be followed. Accept the truth about our sinlessness and the laws of chaos disappear leaving only the Laws of God. Only we are the keepers of the keys of the prison of specialness that binds your brother and ourselves in our egoic-made hell. Only by offering your brother the truth will we both be free.

T-24.VI.10. Would you not gladly realize these laws of **chaos, violence and death** are not for you? 2 Then see **your brother** not as prisoner to **the laws of chaos, violence and death**. 3 It cannot be what governs part of God holds not for all the rest. 4 You place yourself under the **same laws of chaos, violence and death** you see as ruling **your brother**. 5 Think, then, how great the Love of God for you must be, that **God** has given you a part of **God, Himself**, to save from pain and give you happiness. 6 And never doubt but that your specialness will disappear before the Will of God, Who loves each part of **God, Himself**, with equal love and care. 7 The Christ in you can see your brother truly. 8 Would you decide against the holiness **the Christ in you** sees?

Note # 57: God is in all that He created, for God is life. God's home is in the Christ, which is also the home of our brother and ourselves. We have been given the task of freeing our brother from the prison of specialness that is the dream of separation. Since this return to right-mindedness is God's Will, we cannot fail in this assignment. We can only decide how much time we will take before we decide to reawaken to the truth.

T-24.VI.11. Specialness is the function that you gave yourself. 2 **Specialness** stands for you alone, as self-created, self-maintained, in need of nothing, and unjoined with anything beyond the body. 3 In **the eyes of specialness**, you are a separate universe with all the power to hold itself complete within itself **and** with every entry shut against intrusion and every window barred against the light. 4 **In the eyes of specialness, you are** always attacked and always furious, with anger always fully justified. **In the eyes of specialness**, you have pursued this goal **that you are a separate universe** with vigilance you never thought to yield, and effort that you never thought to cease. 5 And all this grim determination **of the egoic thought system** was for this; you wanted specialness to be the truth.

Note # 58: This world of perception was birthed to be our hiding place where we could be special. The ego wanted to substitute the false for the true; the separation in place of the Oneness. The ego wanted a special love from God. It wanted to be different from the Oneness of Everything. The ego has been defending its claim to be special ever since the mad idea of separation was first taken seriously.

T-24.VI.12. Now you are merely asked that you pursue another goal with far less vigilance; with little effort and with little time, and with the power of God maintaining **your pursuit of this other goal**, and **the power of God** promising success **for this new goal**. p513 2 Yet of the two **goals, God's goal, which is our return to the knowledge of our Christ Big "S" Self**, is this one **your split-minded selves** find more difficult. 3 The "sacrifice" of self you understand, nor do you deem this **"sacrifice" of self's** cost too heavy **to make for the achievement of your egoic goal of specialness**. 4 But a tiny willingness, a nod to God, a greeting to the Christ in you, you find **this burden of the "sacrifice" of self**

too wearisome and tedious, too heavy to be borne. 5 Yet to the dedication to the truth as God established **the truth**, no sacrifice is asked, no strain called forth, and all the power of Heaven and the might of truth itself is given to provide the means, and guarantee the goal **of truth's** accomplishment.

Note # 59: Since truth is God's Will, the return of the Sonship to truth is inevitable. The timing of the Son's return to knowledge is contingent upon our willingness to request the Holy Spirit's guidance. Once we ask for this help, the Holy Spirit, through of Power of God, does all the "work". We are merely asked to show a little willingness to follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

T- 24.VI.13. You who believe it easier to see your brother's body than **your brother's** holiness, be sure you understand what made this judgment **for illusion over truth**. 2 Here is the voice of **egoic** specialness heard clearly, judging against the Christ and setting forth for you the purpose that you can attain **in illusions** and what you cannot do **in the reality of truth**. 3. Forget not that this **egoic** judgment must apply to what you do **in the world of perception** with **the ego** as your ally. 4 For what you do through Christ, **the ego** does not know. 5 To **the Christ** this **egoic** judgment **to see your brother's body rather than your brother's holiness** makes no sense at all, for only what His Father wills is possible, and there is no alternative for **the Christ** to see **but your brother's holiness**. 6 Out of **the Christ's** lack of conflict comes your peace. 7 And from **the Christ's** purpose comes the means for effortless accomplishment and rest.

Note # 60: The ego's thought system has become the default ruler that our decision-maker follows. The ego tells the decision-maker what it can and cannot do. The ego tells us that we can attain your illusion of specialness if we see ourselves as a body. But what the ego cannot do is make the separation real. The Holy Spirit, which resides in the Christ, tells us that the purpose of the world of perception is the healing of all illusions of specialness and the return to the truth. The Holy Spirit can easily accomplish this goal as soon as we display our little willingness by asking for His guidance. All the Power of God is available for the Sonship's return to truth.

VII. The Meeting Place

T-24.VII.1. How bitterly does everyone tied to this world defend the specialness he wants to be the truth! 2 His wish is law to him, and he, **who is tied to this world**, obeys **his wish for specialness**. 3 **When one is tied to this world**, nothing his specialness demands does he withhold. 4 Nothing **his specialness** needs does he, **who is tied to this world**, deny to what he loves. 5 And while **his specialness** calls to him he, **who is tied to this world**, hears no other Voice **but the ego's voice**. 6 No effort is too great, no cost too much, no price too dear to save his specialness from the least slight, the tiniest attack, the whispered doubt, the hint of threat, or anything but deepest reverence. 7 This is your **special egoic** son, **the son of littleness and bodily limitation**, beloved of **your egoic self** as you, **the Big "S" Self**, are **beloved** to your Father. 8 Yet **your special egoic son, the child of littleness and bodily limitation**, stands in place of your **true** creations, who <are> son to you, that you might share the Fatherhood of God, not snatch **the Fatherhood of God** from **God, the Father**. 9 What is this son **of specialness and limitation** that your **egoic little "s" selves** have made to be your **egoic mind's** strength? 10 What is this child of earth on whom such love is lavished? 11 What is this parody of God's creation that takes the place of **your true**

creations? 12 And where are they, **your true creations**, now that the host of God has found another son, **which is the egoic child of specialness and limitation** whom **your mind as the host of God** prefers to them, **your true creations?** p514

Note #61: Mind is the generator of is all that is. It is the home of thought and the host of all that is. Our mind is a thought-generating machine. As Children of God, our thoughts have the power to manifest. When we believe that we are special, our thoughts come from limitation and fear. These fear-based thoughts contract rather than extend. These fear-based projections are making not creating. They reside in our mind's imagination and are not shared with the Mind of God. Thoughts of limitation support the illusion of separation and specialness. When we create, we come from love and unlimitedness, which is expansive, sharing and giving in nature. Even during this period of split-mindedness, the Holy Spirit saves our true creations, which are our forgiving and loving thoughts that join minds together. Our projections of limitation and littleness that are fear-based are not real. Yet, the Holy Spirit can reinterpret our misperceptions and transform them into learning tools for the rediscovery of the truth. Depending on which thought system our mind chooses to follow, we are either creating by extending only love or making out of fear and limitation.

T-24.VII.2. The memory of God shines not alone. 2 What is within your brother still contains all of creation, everything created and creating, born and unborn as yet, still in the future or apparently gone by. 3 What is in **your brother** is changeless, and your changelessness is recognized in its acknowledgment **in your brother**. 4 The holiness in you belongs to **your brother**. 5 And by your seeing **holiness** in him, **your brother's holiness** returns to you. 6 All of the tribute you have **mistakenly** given specialness belongs to **your brother**, and thus returns to you. 7 All of the love and care, the strong protection, the thought by day and night, the deep concern, the powerful conviction this is you, belong to **your brother**. 8 Nothing you gave to specialness but is **your brother's** due. 9 And nothing due **your brother** is not due to you.

Note # 62: This paragraph once again describes the interconnectedness of the Oneness of everything. By giving to our brother, we give to ourselves. Give him specialness and we receive specialness. These thoughts become our "creations." Because of the circular nature of thought, these thoughts about our "private world" actually change how we perceive ourselves. Our wish becomes our provisional reality. Because we lack certainty, these thoughts are constantly "reinventing" how we define ourselves to be. We either see ourselves as a son of man, a body or a Child of God, unlimited spirit. Within the split-mind of one who believes that they are special, we believe and, therefore, perceive ourselves to be a limited-ego body. The definition of perception and projection tells us that what we perceive has already been predetermine within the perceiver's mind. We are not observing an event outside ourselves but rather only selectively focusing on certain limited aspects that we have already determined will support our view of reality. Our egoic senses are not a camera; rather they act more like a censor and editor. What our brother appears to be is something that we have created in our mind. Thus, Jesus for example, could be perceived as the greatest sinner or the only Son of God. It is all a matter of individual perspective. Yet, our perception will not change the reality of what Jesus is but it will change how we react to our thoughts about him.

T-24.VII.3. How can you know your **true** worth while specialness claims you instead? 2 How can you fail to know **your worth** in **your brother's** holiness? 3 Seek not to make your specialness the truth, for if **your specialness** were **the truth** you would be lost indeed. 4 Be thankful, rather, it is given you to see **your brother's** holiness <because> **your brother's holiness** is the truth. 5 And what is true in him must be as true in you.

Note # 63: Since our brother is an extension of God, he must be holy. Eventually we will see this truth and thus, know ourselves to be sinless and holy. We can deny this truth about our brother, but we cannot change the Will of God

T-24.VII.4. Ask yourself this: Can <you> protect the mind? 2 **You can protected** the body, yes, a little; not from time, but temporarily. 3 And much you think you save, you hurt. 4 What would you save **the body** <for?> 5 For in that choice lie both **the body's** health and harm. 6 Save **the body** for show, as bait to catch another fish, to house your specialness in better style, or weave a frame of loveliness around your hate, and you condemn **the body** to decay and death. 7 And if you see this purpose in your brother's **body**, such is your condemnation of your own **body**. 8 Weave, rather, then, a frame of holiness around **your brother** that the truth may shine on **your brother**, and give <you> safety from decay.

Note # 64: The body is a neutral communication device. It takes its orders from our mind. We can use the body to communicate either fear or love. The choice is that of our decision-maker. When we choose to regard our brother or ourselves as unlimited and sinless, only then will that become our provisional reality. Our provisional reality can be based on misperception or the correct perception of the Holy Spirit. When we side with the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we will enter the happy dream of correct perception. The happy dream is still an illusion since we will still perceive an observer and something outside ourselves to observe. God will take the final step in our return to Heaven and the knowledge of our Oneness with "All That Is."

T-24.VII.5. The Father keeps what **the Father** created safe. 2 You cannot touch **what the Father created** with the false **egoic** ideas you made, because **what the Father created** was created not by you. 3 Let not your foolish fancies frighten you. 4 What is immortal cannot be attacked; what is but temporal, **which is your foolish fancies that appear to exist only in time**, has no effect **on the immortal**. 5 Only the purpose that you see in **what the Father created** has meaning, and if that is true, **the safety of the Father's creation** rests secure. 6 If not, **the Father's creation** has no purpose, and is means for nothing. 7 Whatever is perceived as means for truth shares in **truth's** holiness, and rests in light as safely as itself, **the truth**. 8 Nor will that light go out when **the light appears to be gone**. 9 Its holy purpose, **the truth**, gave **the Father creation's** immortality, setting another light in Heaven, where your creations recognize a gift from you, a sign that you have not forgotten **your creations**.

Note # 65: Because God's Law of Creation is the extension of its Source, God's creation, the Sonship's safety is assured. The Sonship, being an Effect of God, cannot change its Source or its function. We can temporarily deny the truth only in temporal time, but we can do nothing that can change the truth in eternity.

T-24.VII.6. The test of everything on earth is simply this; "What is **everything on earth** <for>?" 2 The answer to "What is **everything on earth** <for>?" makes it what it is for you. 3 **Everything on earth** has no meaning of itself, yet you can give reality to **everything on earth**, according to the purpose that you serve. **The purpose you choose to serve is either to be a witness for the truth of the Oneness or for the illusion of separation and specialness.** p515 4 Here you are but means, along with **everything on earth**. 5 God is a Means as well as End. 6 In Heaven, means and end are one, and one with **God**. 7 **When the means and ends are one and one with God**, this is the state of true creation, found not within time, but in eternity. 8 To no one here is this describable. 9 Nor is there any way to learn what this condition means. 10 Not till you go past learning to the Given; not till you make again a holy home for your creations is **true creation** understood.

Note # 66: ACIM states that God is both the Means and the End. To the concept of God being everything, this makes sense since nothing could be outside a Oneness of Everything. Since we live in a dualistic thought system, the concept of a Oneness of Everything and the extension of the Mind of God cannot be fully understood since its is beyond perception. We need our mind's return to knowledge to comprehend this One Self.

In Heaven only love is present. On earth, which is the world of perception, time and space, we can appear to have and perform dual and seemingly contradictory purposes. We can represent the thought system of the ego or the Holy Spirit's. In the world of perception both the emotions of fear and love appear as possibilities. Although we can within time appear to support the illusion of separation, God's plan for the return of the Sonship to the truth is always working in the background. Everything that is happening in time is the perfect moment that we must experience to make our return to truth possible. Thus, our egoic refusal to offer our brother forgiveness today is exactly what we need to be able to grant him his sinlessness tomorrow. We do not understand this "Big Picture" and we appear to have our own autonomous egoic purposes and goals. Yet, the job of the Holy Spirit is to direct and produce the movie epic called "The Return of the Sonship to Truth." In this movie, the Holy Spirit reinterprets what appears to be our own egoic plan to prove the reality of the separation into a small subplot to verify the truth of the One Self. Only the Holy Spirit knows how all the parts fit together to form this gigantic movie epic. This is why ACIM advises us to always take counsel from the Voice for God. Thus, in the world of perception, we are also a part of the means that the Holy Spirit uses to achieve Her purpose of "The Return of the Sonship to Truth".

T-24.VII.7. A co-creator with the Father must have a Son. 2 Yet must this **co-creator's** Son have been created like Himself, **the Sonship**. 3 **This co-creator's Son must also be** a perfect being, all-encompassing and all-encompassed, nothing to add and nothing taken from; not born of size nor place nor time, nor held to limits or uncertainties of any kind. 4 Here do the means and end unite as one, nor does this **co-creator's Son** have any end at all. 5 All this is true, and yet it has no meaning to anyone who still retains one unlearned lesson in his memory, one thought with purpose still uncertain, or one wish with a divided aim.

Note # 67: The Sonship's purpose in Heaven is to be co-creator with the Father. By this co-creation process, we complete God because we have proven that creation is extension. When God creates, He gives all because He is all. We too must accept that we are all to give all. If we perceive ourselves as limited, we will also perceive our creations as limited. Although this appears to be our reality, we can only truly extend our unlimited spirit, which

is the Oneness of God. Within our perceived making lies the seed of unlimited creation. God does not create any “junk.” All God created is perfect, whole and complete.

T-24.VII.8. This course makes no attempt to teach what cannot easily be learned. 2 **ACIM's** scope does not exceed your own, except to say that what is yours will come to you when you are ready. 3 Here, **on earth** are the means and the purpose separate because **the means and the ends** were so made and so perceived. 4 And therefore do we deal with them as if **the means and the purpose** were **separate**. 5 It is essential it be kept in mind that all perception still is upside down until **perception's** purpose has been understood. 6 Perception does not seem to be a means. 7 And it is this **belief that perception is not a means** that makes it hard to grasp the whole extent to which **perception** must depend on what you see **perception's purpose** for. 8 Perception seems to teach you what you see. 9 Yet **perception** but witnesses to what you taught. 10 **Perception** is the outward picture of a wish; an image that you wanted to be true.

Note # 68: This paragraph tells us that what we perceive to be objective and outside of us is really subjective and predetermined by what our mind wishes to see. This concept shatters the notion that we are innocent victims of the world around us. It states that we are the source of all that we perceive. This is why ACIM advises us not to change the world, but rather to change how we choose to view our world. If we do this, our world will automatically change to realign with our new purpose.

T-24.VII.9. Look at yourself, and you will see a body. 2 Look at this body in a different light and **the body** looks different. 3 And without a light it seems that **the body** is gone. 4 Yet you are reassured that **the body** is there because you still can feel **the body** with your hands and hear **the body** move. 5 Here, **in the body** is an image that you want to be yourself. 6 **The body** is the means to make your wish of **bodily egoic specialness** come true. 7 **The body** gives the eyes with which you look on **the body**. **The body** gives the hands that feel **the body**. And **the body** gives the ears with which you listen to the sounds **the body** makes. 8 **The body** proves **the body's** own reality to you.

Note # 69: The ego uses the body to prove the separation was real. Yet, we fail to realize that the body was made by the ego to bear false witness to the truth. Thus, the body cannot be considered a credible or unbiased witness for your determination of what you truly are. All of the body's senses are self-serving witnesses for the truth of the body's existence. They should not be believed.

T-24.VII.10. Thus is the body made a theory of yourself, with no provisions made for evidence beyond itself, and no escape within **the body's** sight. 2 **The body's** course is sure, when seen through **the body's** own eyes. 3 **The body** grows and withers, flourishes and dies. 4 And you cannot conceive of you apart from **the body**. 5 You brand **the body** sinful and you hate **the body's** acts, judging **the body** evil. p516 6 Yet your specialness whispers, "Here **as the body** is my own beloved son, in whom I am well pleased." 7 Thus does the **egoic "son", who is the body**, become the means to serve his **egoic "father's"** purpose. 8 **This "son" we call the body**, is not identical, not even like, but still a means to offer to the **egoic "father"** what **the ego** wants. 9 Such is the travesty on God's creation. 10 For as **God's Son's true** creation gave **God** joy and witness to **God's** Love and shared **God's**

purpose, so does the body testify to the idea that made it, **which is the mad idea of separation**, and **the body** speak for **egoic** reality and **egoic** truth.

Note # 70: The body was made by the insane egoic mind as a witness for the reality of the separation. The body is the ego's symbol for limitation and sin. This egoic body is not extension or creation and, therefore, has no place in Heaven. The body does find an illusionary home in hell, which is the state of mind that believes that we could be separate from Our Source. The ego uses the body to mock God and mock our creative powers since the body is the denial of the truth. Our true co-creations await our return to sanity in Heaven.

T-24.VII.11. And thus are two sons made, and both appear to walk this earth without a meeting place and no encounter. 2 One, **the son of egoic man**, do you perceive outside yourself, your own **ego's** beloved son. 3 The other, **the Son of God's Christ**, rests within, his Father's Son, within your brother as **your brother** is in you. 4 **The difference of these two sons** does not lie in how they look, nor where they go, nor even what they do. 5 **These two sons** have a different purpose. 6 It is this **different purpose** that joins them to their like, and separates each from all aspects **of the other** with a different purpose. 7 The Son of God retains his Father's Will. 8 The son of man perceives an alien will and wishes **this alien will** were so. 9 And thus does **the egoic son of man's** perception serve his **ego's** wish by giving **this alien will** the appearances of truth. 10 Yet can perception serve another goal. 11 **Perception** is not bound to specialness but by your choice **made by your own free will**. 12 And it is given you to make a different choice, and use perception for a different purpose. 13 And what you see will serve that **different purpose** well, and prove **the different purpose's** own reality to you. p517

Note # 71: Since perception is based on what we have predetermined to be what we want, we can change our perception by changing our goal. Projection makes perception. When we change our purpose, we automatically arrive at an "alternate reality." This is why ACIM is attempting to reawaken within us our decision-maker so that we can choose again. Within our split mind is both the Big "S" Self, which represents the Christ, and also the little "s" self, which believes that it is a limited ego-body. It is the decision-maker who determines what it wants to perceive itself to be at any given moment of time. It either follows the egoic thought system or chooses the Holy Spirit's. These two "selves," like the thought systems that they represent, are mutually exclusive. You must choose between the two. The choice for littleness however, will require that you eventually must choose again. Eventually, illusion must disappear before the truth. When this happens the need for time will also end.