

Chapter 8.

THE JOURNEY BACK

I. The Direction of the Curriculum

T-8.I.1. Knowledge is not the motivation for learning this course. 2 Peace is **the motivation for learning this course**. 3 **Peace** is the prerequisite for knowledge only because those who are in conflict are not peaceful, and peace is the condition of knowledge because **peace** is the condition of the Kingdom. 4 Knowledge can be restored only when you meet **knowledge's** conditions. 5 **The requirement that peace is the prerequisite for knowledge** is not a bargain made by God, Who makes no bargains. 6 **The requirement that peace is the prerequisite for knowledge** is merely the result of your misuse of **God's** laws on behalf of an imaginary will that is not **God's Will**. 7 Knowledge <is> **God's Will**. 8 If you are opposing **God's Will**, how can you have knowledge? 9 I have told you what knowledge offers you, but perhaps you do not yet regard **what knowledge offers you** as wholly desirable. 10 If you did **regard what knowledge offers you as wholly desirable**, you would not be so ready to throw **knowledge** away when the ego asks for your allegiance.

Note #1: Knowledge is truth. Knowledge is lost as long as your mind is split due to the ego's belief in separation. Egoic beliefs lead us into conflict and the loss of inner peace.

T-8.I.2. The distractions of the ego may seem to interfere with your learning, but the ego has no power to distract you unless you give **the ego** the power to **distract you**. 2 The ego's voice is an hallucination. 3 You cannot expect **the ego** to say "I, **the ego**, am not real." 4 Yet you are not asked to dispel your hallucinations alone. 5 You are merely asked to evaluate **your hallucinations of the ego**, in terms of **your hallucinations'** results to you. 6 If you do not want **your hallucinations' results** on the basis of loss of peace, **your hallucinations' results** will be removed from your mind for you.

Note #2: Since the ego is a creation of your mind, the only power that the ego has is what your mind gives it. Your mind remains the decision-maker. You will only want to keep the ego if you value the results given to you by following its belief system. The egoic belief system says that you are a separate autonomous individual. It claims that you are special.

T-8.I.3. Every response to the ego is a call to war, and war does deprive you of peace. 2 Yet in this war **of the ego** there is no opponent. 3 **The realization that there is no opponent for the ego to war against** is the reinterpretation of reality that you must make to secure peace, and the only **response to the ego** you need ever make. 4 Those whom you perceive as opponents are part of your peace, which you are giving up by attacking **those whom you perceive as opponents**. 5 How can you have what you give up? 6 You share to have **peace**, but you do not give **peace** up yourself. 7 When you give up peace, you are excluding yourself from **peace**. 8 **Excluding yourself from peace** is a condition so alien to the Kingdom that you cannot understand the state that prevails within **the Kingdom**.

Note #3: You, as decision-maker, always have a choice as to which thought system the mind will follow. The ego's thought system offers war while the Holy Spirit's thought system offers peace. If we claim we are separate and special, we will have to protect our "assets" against outside attack. By claiming specialness, we deny the reality of our spirit.

We deny the reality of our oneness with everything. We now have opponents and attack becomes possible.

T-8.I.4. Your past **egoic** learning must have taught you the wrong things, simply because **your past learning** has not made you happy. 2 On this basis alone, **that your past egoic learning has not made you happy, your past egoic learning's** value should be questioned. 3 If learning aims at change, and that is always **learning's** purpose, are you satisfied with the changes your **egoic** learning has brought you? p138 4 Dissatisfaction with learning outcomes is a sign of learning failure, since **dissatisfaction with learning outcomes** means that you did not get what you wanted.

Note # 4: If you are not happy, the Holy Spirit asks you to choose again and follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The egoic thought system is designed to value your claim to be right over your happiness.

T-8.I.5. The curriculum of the Atonement is the opposite of the curriculum you have established for yourself, but so is **the curriculum of the Atonement's** outcome. 2 If the outcome of **your ego's curriculum** has made you unhappy, and if you want a different **outcome**, a change in the curriculum is obviously necessary. 3 The first change to be introduced is a change in direction. 4 A meaningful curriculum cannot be inconsistent. 5 If it is planned by two teachers, each believing in diametrically opposed ideas, **each teacher's curriculum** cannot be integrated. 6 If **the curriculum** is carried out by these two teachers simultaneously, each **teacher's curriculum** merely interferes with the other **teacher's curriculum**. 7 **These conflicting teacher's curriculums** leads to fluctuation, but not to change. 8 The volatile have no direction. 9 **The students**, cannot choose one **teacher's curriculum** because **the students**, cannot relinquish the other **teacher's curriculum**, even if **other teacher's curriculum** does not exist. 10 Their conflicted curriculum teaches **the student** that *<all>* directions exist, and gives **the student** no rationale for choice.

Note # 5: Your mind cannot serve two opposing teachers. You must choose only one teacher's voice to follow.

T-8.I.6. The total senselessness of such a **conflicted** curriculum must be fully recognized before a real change in direction becomes possible. 2 You cannot learn simultaneously from two teachers who are in total disagreement about everything. 3 Their joint curriculum presents an impossible learning task. 4 **The two teachers who are in total disagreement about everything** are teaching you entirely different things in entirely different ways, which might be possible except that both are teaching you about yourself. 5 Your reality is unaffected by both **teachers**, but if you listen to both **teachers**, your mind will be split about what your reality is.

Note # 6: To reunify your split mind, you must choose only to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The ego teaches us that we are special and separate. The price for specialness is limitation and the acceptance of the body as our reality. The ego's teachings result in the loss of our peace and happiness. It gives us conflict, fear, competition and lack. The Holy Spirit teaches us that we are unlimited spirit and part of the Oneness that is the holographic

Mind of God. Knowing we are everything, It teaches equality and extension. The Holy Spirit's teachings result in our obtainment of love, peace and happiness.

II. The Difference between Imprisonment and Freedom

T-8.II.1. There *<is>* a rationale for choice. 2 Only one Teacher knows what your reality is. 3 If learning to remove the obstacles to that knowledge is the purpose of the curriculum, you must learn **to remove the obstacles to that knowledge of Him, the Holy Spirit, the one Teacher that knows what your reality is.** 4 The ego does not know what **the ego** is trying to teach. 5 **The ego** is trying to teach you what you are without knowing what you are. 6 **The ego** is expert only in confusion. 7 **The ego** does not understand anything else **but confusion.** 8 As a teacher, then, the ego is totally confused and totally confusing. 9 Even if you could disregard the Holy Spirit entirely, which is impossible, you could still learn nothing from the ego, because the ego knows nothing.

Note # 7: The ego knows nothing because its entire thought system is based on not knowing what you are. It is based on the belief in separation and that you can do something other than God's Will. The ego claims you are an individual ego-body, not an unlimited spiritual essence. The Holy Spirit's thought system is based on knowledge and its goal is your return to knowledge. Knowledge is God's Will.

T-8.II.2. Is there any possible reason for choosing a teacher such as **the ego who knows nothing?** p139 2 Does the total disregard of anything **the ego** teaches make anything but sense? 3 Is **the ego that knows nothing** the teacher to whom a Son of God should turn to find himself? 4 The ego has never given you a sensible answer to anything. 5 Simply on the grounds of your own experience with **the ego's** teaching, should not this alone disqualify **the ego** as your future teacher? 6 Yet the ego has done more harm to your learning than this alone. 7 Learning is joyful if **learning** leads you along your natural path, and facilitates the development of what you have. 8 When you are taught against your nature, however, you will lose by your learning because your learning will imprison you. 9 Your will is *<in>* your nature, and therefore cannot go against **your nature.**

Note # 8: The ego teaches that you are not your mind, but rather a body. This goes against your nature as unlimited spirit. If you are a body, you become a victim to outside forces. You lose your ability to be the decision-maker in charge of choosing your own experiences and awareness.

T-8.II.3. The ego cannot teach you anything as long as your will is free, because you will not listen to **the ego if your will is free.** 2 It is not your will to be imprisoned because your will is free. 3 **Because the ego would imprison your will, this** is why the ego is the denial of free will. 4 It is never God Who coerces you, because **God** shares **God's Will** with you. 5 **God's** Voice teaches only in accordance with **God's Will**, but that is not the Holy Spirit's lesson because that is what you *<are.>* 6 The lesson **of the Holy Spirit** is that your will and God's Will cannot be out of accord because **your will and God's Will** are one. 7 **That your will and God's Will are one** is the undoing of everything the ego tries to teach. 8 It is not, then, only the direction of the curriculum that must be unconflicted, but also the content **of the curriculum that must be unconflicted.**

Note # 9: The entire egoic thought system is predicated on the belief that you have a will that is different from God's and that your will can and does oppose God's Will. The ego's "will" claims that it is more important to claim that you are right even when you are wrong than it is to be happy. God and the Holy Spirit and your Big "S" Self all agree that Their one joint Will is that you be happy.

T-8.II.4. The ego tries to teach that you want to oppose God's Will. 2 **That you want to oppose God's Will is an unnatural lesson that cannot be learned, and the attempt to learn the unnatural lesson that you want to oppose God's Will is a violation of your own freedom, making you afraid of your will <because> your will is free.** 3 The Holy Spirit opposes any imprisoning of the will of a Son of God, knowing that the Will of the Son is the Father's Will. 4 The Holy Spirit leads you steadily along the path of freedom, teaching you how to disregard or look beyond everything that would hold you back.

Note # 10: Since you are an extension of the Mind of God, you have been created in God's image. As such, your will and God's Will are the same. The ego attempts to teach you that what is the same, your joint Will, is actually different. This is unnatural since it is contradictory to what you are and, therefore, false. Your Big "S" Self knows the truth and looks upon the ego's thought system as unnatural and imprisoning since it opposes your divine birthright.

T-8.II.5. We have said that the Holy Spirit teaches you the difference between pain and joy. 2 **The difference between pain and joy is the same as saying the Holy Spirit teaches you the difference between imprisonment and freedom.** 3 You cannot make this distinction **between imprisonment and freedom** without **the Holy Spirit** because you have taught yourself that imprisonment is freedom. 4 Believing **imprisonment and freedom** to be the same, how can you tell **imprisonment and freedom** apart? 5 Can you ask the part of your mind, **the ego**, that taught you to believe **imprisonment and freedom** are the same, to teach you how **imprisonment and freedom** are different?

Note # 11: A teacher who knows nothing and only teaches the false cannot be expected to miraculously start teaching the truth. To teach truth, the teacher must have knowledge of the truth. The ego's thought system imprisons your free will by removing the mind as the decision-maker, and then claims that you are free to oppose God's Will. It is only in your decision to be one with the Mind of God that you can be free since that is what you are. The goal of the Holy Spirit is to "Know Thyself". The ego's goal is that you "Never Know Thyself." As long as you view yourself as a separate individual, you cannot know yourself as the whole. You need unity with your brother, who is a part of you, to realize that you are part of God, Who is everything.

T-8.II.6. The Holy Spirit's teaching takes only <one> direction and has only <one> goal. 2 **The Holy Spirit's** direction is freedom and **the Holy Spirit's** goal is God. 3 Yet **the Holy Spirit** cannot conceive of God without you, because it is not God's Will to <be> without you. 4 When you have learned that your will is God's Will, you could no more will to be without God than God could will to be without you. p140 5 This **learning that your will is God's Will**, is freedom and this **learning that your will is God's Will** is joy. 6 Deny yourself this **learning that your will is God's Will** and you are denying God His Kingdom, because God created you for this **learning that your will is God's Will**.

Note # 12: God created you as an extension of Himself. God is the cause and we are the Effect. Cause and effect are inseparable. We are God's completion. Our purpose is to extend the Kingdom by becoming co-creators with our Father.

T-8.II.7. When I said, "All power and glory are yours because the Kingdom is **God's,**" this is what I meant: The Will of God is without limit, and all power and glory lie within **the Will of God.** 2 **The Will of God** is boundless in strength and in love and in peace. 3 **The Will of God** has no boundaries because **the Will of God's** extension is unlimited, and **the Will of God** encompasses all things because **the Will of God** created all things. 4 By creating all things, **the Will of God** made **all things** part of itself. 5 You are the Will of God because that is how you were created. 6 Because your Creator creates only like Himself, you are like **your Creator.** 7 You are part of **your Creator** Who is all power and glory, and **you** are therefore, as unlimited as **God, your Creator** is.

Note # 13: Because creation is an extension, we share all the powers of our source. Our powers only difference is that the Father is the First Cause. We did not self-create ourselves. We are the extension of the universal hologram that is the Mind of God.

T-8.II.8. To what else except all power and glory can the Holy Spirit appeal to restore God's Kingdom? 2 **The Holy Spirit's** appeal, then, is merely to what the Kingdom is, and for **the Kingdom's** own acknowledgment of what **the Kingdom** is. 3 When you acknowledge **what the Kingdom is** you bring the acknowledgment automatically to everyone, because you *<have>* acknowledged everyone. 4 By your recognition you awaken their **recognition**, and through their **recognition** your **recognition** is extended. 5 Awakening runs easily and gladly through the Kingdom, in answer to the Call for God. 6 This **recognition and acknowledgement of what the Kingdom is**, is the natural response of every Son of God to the Voice for his Creator, because **this recognition and acknowledgement of what the Kingdom is**, is the Voice for his son's creations and for his son's own extension. **This recognition is the acknowledgment that all power and glory has been given to God's creations since God's creations are the extensions of the Will of God**

Note # 14: The Kingdom is the Truth. When we realize that our divine birthright is the truth that we are the Oneness of Everything, we will freely embrace this truth and share it with our brother. Being One with the God of "All That Is," we cannot be content with egoic littleness.

III. The Holy Encounter

T-8.III.1. Glory to God in the highest, and to you because **God** has so willed **glory to you.** 2 Ask and **glory to you** shall be given you, because **glory to you** has already *<been>* given **to you.** 3 Ask for light and learn that you *<are>* light. 4 If you want understanding and enlightenment you will learn **understanding and enlightenment**, because your decision to learn **understanding and enlightenment** is the decision to listen to the Teacher Who knows of light, **which is the Holy Spirit**, and can therefore teach **understanding and enlightenment** to you. 5 There is no limit on your learning because there is no limit on your mind. 6 There is no limit on **the Holy Spirit's** teaching because **the Holy Spirit** was created to teach. 7 Understanding **the Holy Spirit's** function perfectly **the Holy Spirit**

fulfills **the Holy Spirit's function** perfectly, because that is **the Holy Spirit's joy and your joy**.

Note # 15: God gave the Holy Spirit the purpose of returning the Sonship to the Kingdom. The Holy Spirit cannot fail in this mission since Its purpose is backed by the Will of God. It will teach us the truth because It knows the truth.

T-8.III.2. To fulfill the Will of God perfectly is the only joy and peace that can be fully known, because **to fulfill the Will of God perfectly** is the only function that can be fully experienced. 2 When **fulfilling the Will of God perfectly** is accomplished, then, there is no other experience **than to fulfill the Will of God perfectly**. p141 3 Yet the wish for other experience will block **the accomplishment of the fulfillment of the Will of God perfectly**, because God's Will cannot be forced upon you, **because God's Will is** being an experience of total willingness. 4 The Holy Spirit understands how to teach **the fulfillment of the Will of God perfectly** but you do not **understand how to teach the fulfillment of the Will of God perfectly**. 5 **Because you do not understand how to teach the fulfillment of the Will of God perfectly this** is why you need **the Holy Spirit**, and why God gave **the Holy Spirit** to you. 6 Only **the Holy Spirit's** teaching will release your will to God's **Will**, uniting **your will** with **God's** power and glory and establishing **God's power and glory** as **your power and glory**. 7 You share **God's power and glory** as God shares **God's power and glory**, because **God's power and glory** is the natural outcome of **God's power and glory's** being.

Note # 16: Our function is to perfectly fulfill and experience the Will of God. We do this by extending ourselves to our own creations as the Father extended Himself to His Son. We cannot create like our Father, if we do not know and accept our divine inheritance as unlimited spirit. Since to give is to receive, by sharing or extending our inheritance to others, we accept and receive our inheritance. Creation is "being" It is a participatory process. We cannot participate in co-creation when we attempt to exclude anything from the Oneness that is the holographic Mind of God.

T-8.III.3. The Will of the Father and of the Son are One, by Their extension. 2 **The extension of the One Will of the Father and Son** is the result of **the Father and Son's** Oneness holding Their unity together by extending **the Father and Son's** joint Will. 3 This **extension** is perfect creation by the perfectly created **Son of God** in union with the perfect Creator, **God, the Father**. 4 The Father must give fatherhood to His Son, because **God's** Own Fatherhood must be extended outward. 5 You who belong in God have the holy function of extending **God's** Fatherhood by placing no limits upon **God's Fatherhood**. 6 Let the Holy Spirit teach you how to do this **holy function of extending God's Fatherhood by placing no limits upon God's Fatherhood**, for you can know what **this function of extending God's Fatherhood** means only of God Himself.

Note # 17: We must not place any limits on the extension of God, the Father. To limit is to not extend. To have all, give all, to all. This is first lesson of the Holy Spirit. If God did not give us all His powers, including the power of creation, we would not have been created in His image. By our failure to utilize this power, we are attempting to limit the extension of God. This cannot be done. Our function is to be co-creator with God. This is how we share God's Will.

T-8.III.4. When you meet anyone, remember **any meeting** is a holy encounter. 2 As you see him you will see yourself. 3 As you treat him you will treat yourself. 4 As you think of him you will think of yourself. 5 Never forget this, for in **your brother** you will find yourself or lose yourself. 6 Whenever two Sons of God meet, they are given another chance at salvation. 7 Do not leave anyone without giving salvation to him and receiving **salvation** yourself. 8 For I am always there with you, in remembrance of <you.>

Note # 18: We receive what we give. What we perceive, we project out to others and this same projection is reflected back on us. What we think, we become. We can only perceive in another what we believe that we hold inside ourselves. Our purpose will determine what we allow ourselves to perceive. We cannot love another, if we do not love ourselves.

T-8.III.5. The goal of the curriculum, regardless of the teacher you choose, is "Know thyself." 2 There is nothing else to seek **but to "Know thyself"**. 3 Everyone is looking for himself and for the power and glory he thinks he has lost. 4 Whenever you are with anyone, you have another opportunity to find them. 5 Your power and glory are in him because **his power and glory** are yours. 6 The ego tries to find **power and glory** in yourself alone, because **the ego** does not know where to look **for your power and glory**. 7 The Holy Spirit teaches you that if you look only at yourself you cannot find yourself, because that is not what you are. 8 Whenever you are with a brother, you are learning what you are because you are teaching what you are **to your brother**. 9 **Your brother** will respond either with pain or with joy, depending on which teacher, **the ego or the Holy Spirit**, you are following. 10 **Your brother** will be imprisoned or released according to your decision **on which teacher, the ego or the Holy Spirit, you are choosing to follow**, and so will you **be imprisoned or released by your decision**. 11 Never forget your responsibility to **your brother**, because **your responsibility for your choice of teacher** is your responsibility to yourself. 12 Give **your brother** his place in the Kingdom and you will have **given yourself your place in the Kingdom**. p142

Note # 19: When we follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we look past bodily form, and see the Christ in our brother. If not, we see limitation and imperfection. Since to give is to receive, we will be placing that same self-image upon ourselves. By seeing our brother as limited, we imprison ourselves as his jail warden.

T-8.III.6. The Kingdom cannot be found alone, and you who are the Kingdom cannot find yourself alone. 2 To achieve the goal of the curriculum, **which is to know thyself and thus, extend God's Kingdom**, then, you cannot listen to the ego, whose purpose is to defeat its own goal **of knowing thyself**. 3 The ego does not know this, because **the ego** does not know anything. 4 But you can know **not to listen to the ego**, and you will know **not to listen to the ego** if you are willing to look at what the ego would make of you. 5 **To look at what the ego would make of you** is your responsibility, because once you have really looked at **what the ego would make of you**, you <will> accept the Atonement for yourself. 6 What other choice could you make? 7 Having made this choice **of accepting the Atonement for yourself**, you will understand why you once believed that, when you met someone else, you thought he <was> someone else. 8 And every holy encounter in which you enter fully will teach you **the idea of your separateness** is not so.

Note # 20: Since the Sonship is also a Oneness, all God's creations are part of the whole. In seeing the oneness of you and your entire brotherhood, the Sonship becomes reunited in perfect equality. Every holy encounter is utilized to teach and experience union with each other. These once egoic relationships have been transformed into a means of sharing and joining. The Holy Spirit has taken the teaching devices of egoic learning and turned them into learning lessons for the truth of the Oneness.

T-8.III.7. You can encounter only part of yourself because you are part of God, Who is everything. 2 **God's power and glory** are everywhere, and you cannot be excluded from **God's power and glory**. 3 The ego teaches that your strength is in you alone. 4 The Holy Spirit teaches that all strength is in God and *<therefore>* **all strength is in you since you are part of God**. 5 God wills no one suffer. 6 **God** does not will anyone to suffer for a wrong decision, including you. 7 That is why **God** has given you the means for undoing a **wrong decision**. 8 Through **God's power and glory** all your wrong decisions are undone completely, releasing you and your brother from every imprisoning thought any part of the Sonship holds. 9 Wrong decisions have no power, because **wrong decisions** are not true. 10 The imprisonment **that wrong decisions** seem to produce is no more true than **the wrong decision is true**.

Note # 21: God only wills that His Child be happy. God does not condemn a child, when a child errs. Mistakes are not sin. They merely require correction. God asks through the Holy Spirit that His Child choose again. Punishment is not part of the Mind of God since God knows His Child only as He was created, perfect, whole and complete.

T-8.III.8. Power and glory belong to God alone. 2 So do you **belong to God alone** 3 God gives whatever belongs to **God** because **God** gives of Himself, and everything belongs to **God**. 4 Giving of yourself is the function **God** gave you. 5 Fulfilling **the function of giving of yourself perfectly** will let you remember what you *<have>* of **God**, and by this **giving of yourself perfectly** you will remember also what you *<are>* in **God**. 6 You cannot be powerless to do this **giving of yourself perfectly**, because this **giving of yourself perfectly** is your power. 7 Glory is God's gift to you, because **glory** is what **God** is. 8 See this glory **of God** everywhere to remember what you are, **for you are the glory of God**.

Note # 22: Giving of yourself is the function God gave you. By giving, you receive and remember that you are unlimited spirit. You are "being" what God created you to be. Creation is the giving of yourself, which is everything, to everything. By giving, you know you have. Being and having are the same under the thought system of the Holy Spirit, Who represents God's Laws. By your being a co-creator with God, you extend the holographic Mind of God. This is God's glory.

IV. The Gift of Freedom

T-8.IV.1. If God's Will for you is complete peace and joy, unless you experience only **complete peace and joy** you must be refusing to acknowledge **God's Will**. 2 **God's Will** does not vacillate, being changeless forever. 3 When you are not at peace it can only be because you do not believe you are in **God**. 4 Yet **God** is All in all. 5 **God's peace** is complete, and you must be included in **God's peace**. p143 6 **God's laws** govern you because **God's laws** govern everything. 7 You cannot exempt yourself from **God's laws**,

although you can disobey **God's laws**. 8 Yet if you do **disobey God's laws**, and only if you do **disobey God's laws**, you will feel lonely and helpless, because you are denying yourself everything.

Note # 23: Because we have free will, our ego can temporarily choose to deny that the Laws of God apply to us. Yet, this denial can only result in our unhappiness since our Big "S" Self feels our lack of alignment with our true Source. Our split mind is in conflict and needs to be brought back into wholeness with God's Will. God's Will is that we be happy and know ourselves to be the completion of God, Herself.

T-8.IV.2. I am come as a light into a world that does deny itself everything. 2 **This world that denies itself everything** does this simply by dissociating itself, (**our dream world of provisional reality**), from everything **that is real**. 3 **Our dream world of provisional reality** is therefore an illusion of isolation, maintained by fear of the same loneliness that *<is>* **our dream world's illusion, which is the belief in the separation**. 4 I said that I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. 5 **Because I am with you always**, that is why I am the light of the world. 6 If I am with you in the loneliness of the world, the loneliness is gone. 7 You cannot maintain the illusion of loneliness if you are not alone. 8 My purpose, then, is still to overcome the world of **illusion**. 9 I do not attack **the world of illusion**, but my light must dispel **the world of illusion** because of what **the world** is. 10 Light does not attack darkness, but **light** does shine **darkness** away. 11 If my light goes with you everywhere, you shine **darkness** away with me. 12 The light becomes **our light**, and you cannot abide in darkness any more than darkness can abide wherever you go. 13 The remembrance of me is the remembrance of yourself, and of **God**, Who sent me to you.

Note # 24: By denying our spiritual essence, we deny the fact that we are a Oneness of "All That Is". Instead, we make an illusionary world in which we hide in fear. Jesus, as the way shower, dispels our illusions with his light of truth. As we share his light with our brother, his light becomes our light. We discover we were never alone, only sleeping.

T-8.IV.3. You were in darkness until God's Will was done completely by any part of the Sonship. 2 When **God's Will was done completely by any part of the Sonship**, it was perfectly accomplished by **all of the Sonship**. 3 How else could **God's Will** be perfectly accomplished? 4 My mission was simply to unite the will of the Sonship with the Will of the Father by being aware of the Father's Will myself. 5 This is the awareness I came to give you, and your problem in accepting **the unity of the will of the Sonship with the Will of the Father** is the problem of this world. 6 Dispelling **the world's problem of not accepting the unity of the will of the Sonship with the Will of the Father** is salvation, and in this sense I *<am>* the salvation of the world. 7 The world must therefore despise and reject me, because the world *<is>* the belief that love is impossible. 8 If you will accept the fact that I am with you, you are denying the world and accepting God. 9 My will is **God's Will**, and your decision to hear me is the decision to hear **God's Voice** and abide in **God's Will**. 10 As God sent me to you so will I send you to others. 11 And I will go to **the others** with you, so we can teach **the others** peace and union.

Note # 25: Jesus' mission was to unite the will of the Sonship with the Will of the Father. Jesus accomplished this by being aware of God's Will within himself. Our part in the

salvation process is to accept God's Will within ourselves as Jesus did and thus, unite the will of the Sonship with God's Will. The Sonship is one and is also holographic. When Jesus completed his remembrance of God, the entire Sonship benefited from this unification.

T-8.IV.4. Do you not think the world needs peace as much as you do? 2 Do you not want to give **peace** to the world as much as you want to receive **peace**? 3 For unless you do **want to give peace**, you will not receive **peace**. 4 If you want to have **the peace** of me, you must give **peace**. 5 Healing does not come from anyone else. 6 You must accept guidance from within. 7 The guidance must be what you want, or **the guidance** will be meaningless to you. p144 8 **That you must want guidance, or the guidance will be meaningless to you**, is why healing is a collaborative venture. 9 I can tell you what to do, but you must collaborate by believing that I know what you should do. 10 Only then **by believing that I know what you should do**, will your mind choose to follow me. 11 Without this choice to **follow me** you could not be healed because you would have decided against healing, and this rejection of my decision for you makes healing impossible.

Note # 26: Because we have free will, we must be willing to accept Jesus' or the Holy Spirit's guidance. Without our collaboration, the guidance of the High –Self will not be followed. Healing must come from within you. Only you can choose to be healed. Healing cannot be imposed upon someone by an outside force. If this were the case, it would prove that we are indeed separate and not created equally. Since our mind is split, you must accept guidance from the Holy Spirit and collaborate with this guide by believing the Holy Spirit knows what you should do. Healing reflects the joining of our Big "S" Self with another High-Self's will by which the "mad idea" of the separation is overcome by union. By sharing, truth overcomes the fear of the false.

T-8.IV.5. Healing reflects our joint will. 2 This is obvious when you consider what healing is for. 3 Healing is the way in which the separation is overcome. 4 Separation is overcome by union. 5 **Separation** cannot be overcome by separating. 6 The decision to unite must be unequivocal, or the mind itself is divided and not whole. 7 Your mind is the means by which you determine your own condition, because mind is the mechanism of decision. 8 **Mind's mechanism of decision** is the power by which you separate or join, and experience pain or joy accordingly. 9 My decision cannot overcome **your decision**, because **your decision** is as powerful as **my decision**. 10 If **your decision was not as powerful as my decision**, the Sons of God would be unequal. 11 All things are possible through our joint decision, but **my decision** alone cannot help you. 12 Your will is as free as mine, and God Himself would not go against **your free will**. 13 I cannot will what God does not will and **God Wills your will be free**. 14 I can offer my strength of **my will** to make **your will** invincible, but I cannot oppose your decision without competing with **your decision** and thereby violating God's Will for you.

Note # 27: Due to our free will, we must willingly join in any decision making process. Our mind is the decision-maker and our free will insures equality among the Sonship. Only by collaboration with the thought system of the Holy Spirit can we heal our split mind. We control every experience we call into our awareness. There are no victims and no outside force controls our destiny. God's love allows us perfect freedom to co-create or to imagine anything that we want.

This also means that there are no “innocent victims.” Any experience that involves others is a collaborative effort. Someone must choose to be the “victim” and the other must choose to be the “victimizer.” No one, not even Jesus, can force us to do something against our free will. God wills that His Children be free to experience anything that we want. We can co-create like and with God or we can imagine the false in the non-real world of individual perception, time and space with the fragmented Sonship.

T-8.IV.6. Nothing God created can oppose your decision, as nothing God created can oppose **God’s Will**. 2 God gave your will its power, which I can only acknowledge in honor of **God’s Will**. 3 If you want to be like me I will help you, knowing that we are alike. 4 If you want to be different, I will wait until you change your mind. 5 I can teach you, but only you can choose to listen to my teaching. 6 How else can it be, if God's Kingdom is freedom? 7 Freedom cannot be learned by tyranny of any kind, and the perfect equality of all God's Sons cannot be recognized through the dominion of one mind over another **mind**. 8 God's Sons are equal in will, all being the Will of their Father. 9 **That God's Sons are equal in will, all being the Will of their Father**, is the only lesson I came to teach.

Note # 28: Due to equality within the Sonship, our free will prevents Jesus or the Holy Spirit from forcing their Will upon another. Both are willing to wait patiently until we freely ask for their guidance. This asking is inevitable because God’s Will is that we be whole. The joining or union of our split mind is the goal of healing. This reestablishes the Will of God in our minds, which always remain part of the One Mind of God.

T-8.IV.7. If your will were not **my will, your will** would not be our Father's **Will**. 2 This would mean you have imprisoned **your will**, and have not let **your will** be free. 3 Of yourself you can do nothing, because of yourself you *<are>* nothing. 4 I am nothing without the Father and you are nothing without me, because by denying the Father you deny yourself. 5 I will always remember you, and in my remembrance of you lies your remembrance of yourself. 6 In our remembrance of each other lies our remembrance of God. 7 And in this remembrance lies your freedom because your freedom is in **God**. p145 8 Join, then, with me in praise of **God** and you whom **God** created. 9 This **joining in praise of God and His creations** is our gift of gratitude to **God**, which **God** will share with all **God’s** creations, to whom **God** gives equally whatever is acceptable to **God**. 10 Because **our joint praise of God and His creations** is acceptable to **God**, **our joint praise of God and His creations** is the gift of freedom, which is **God’s Will** for all **God’s** Sons. 11 By offering freedom you will be free.

Note # 29: It is our joining freely as one will and extending our true Self, (creation), that our praise of the Father is demonstrated. Since there is only One Will, to deny God’s Will to any part of the indivisible Oneness is to deny it to all. We can deny God’s Will but we cannot change God’s Will. Our denial has no affect upon the Kingdom.

God’s Will is that you be free. When we accept the Atonement for ourselves, we are accepting our total freedom. The Atonement states that we are sinless and guiltless. It states that our fear-based thoughts have no consequences and, therefore, cannot affect the reality of what we are. God allows all and does not judge. God’s love provides us this absolute freedom and safety.

T-8.IV.8. Freedom is the only gift you can offer to God's Sons, being an acknowledgment of what **God's Sons** are and what **God** is. 2 Freedom is creation, because **freedom** is love. 3 Whom you seek to imprison you do not love. 4 Therefore, when you seek to imprison anyone, including yourself, you do not love him and you cannot identify with him. 5 When you imprison yourself you are losing sight of your true identification with me and with the Father. 6 Your identification is with the Father *<and>* with the Son. 7 **Your identification** cannot be with **only One, either Father or Son**, and not the Other. 8 If you are part of One, **either Father or Son**, you must be part of the Other because **the Father and Son** are One. 9 The Holy Trinity is holy *<because>* **the Holy Trinity** is One. 10 If you exclude yourself from this union of **the Holy Trinity**, you are perceiving the Holy Trinity as separated. 11 You must be included in **the Holy Trinity**, because **the Holy Trinity** is everything. 12 Unless you take your place in **the Holy Trinity** and fulfill your function as part of **the Holy Trinity**, the Holy Trinity is as bereft as you are. 13 No part of **the Holy Trinity** can be imprisoned if **the Holy Trinity's** truth is to be known.

Note #30: The Holy Trinity is the Oneness of everything. It encompasses everything and, therefore, we are part of it. This Holy Trinity is comprised of the Father, the Sonship, and the Holy Spirit. The function of the Sonship is to continue the extension of the Mind of God by creating like the Father. The function of the Holy Spirit is to be the bridge that connects the Father with His Son. We are part of this hologram of Oneness. Our reuniting of the Sonship through the Atonement process is the renunciations of the ego and the mad idea of the separation.

V. The Undivided Will of the Sonship

T-8.V.1. Can you be separated from your identification and be at peace? 2 Dissociation is not a solution; **dissociation or, separation from your identification**, is a delusion. 3 The delusional believe that truth will assail them, and they, **who did not remember that they are unified spirit**, do not recognize **this delusional belief** because they prefer the delusion of **separation from their own identity**. 4 Judging truth as something they, **who did not remember what they are**, do not want, **these deluded minds** perceive their illusions which block knowledge. 5 Help them, **who did not remember their own identity**, by offering them **who are deluded**, your unified mind on their behalf, as I am offering you **my unified mind** on behalf of your **mind**. 6 Alone we can do nothing, but together our minds fuse into something whose power is far beyond the power of **our minds'** separate parts. 7 By not being separate, the Mind of God is established in our mind and as our **mind**. 8 **The Mind of God** is invincible because **the Mind of God** is undivided.

Note # 31: Alone we can do nothing because only by sharing are ideas strengthened. Unshared ideas foster the belief in separation. Sharing thought is joining, union and creation.

T-8.V.2. The undivided will of the Sonship is the perfect creator, being wholly in the likeness of God, Whose Will is **also the undivided will of the Sonship**. 2 You cannot be exempt from **the undivided will of the Sonship** if you are to understand what **the undivided will of the Sonship** is and what you are. p146 3 By the belief that your will is separate from mine, you are exempting yourself from the Will of God which *<is>* yourself. 4 Yet to heal is still to make whole. 5 Therefore, to heal is to unite with those who are like

you, because perceiving this likeness is to recognize the Father. 6 If your perfection is in **the Father** and only in **the Father**, how can you know **the undivided will of the Sonship** without recognizing **the Father**? 7 The recognition of God is the recognition of yourself. 8 There is no separation of God and **God's** creation. 9 You will realize this when you understand that there is no separation between your will and **my will**. 10 Let the Love of God shine upon you by your acceptance of me. 11 My reality is **your reality** and **God's reality**. 12 By joining your mind with mine you are signifying your awareness that the Will of God is One.

Note # 32: By the belief that your will is separate from Jesus and God's, you are claiming that you do not know what you are. This denial of our joint one Will is the underlying belief that birthed the idea of the separation and specialness.

T-8.V.3. God's Oneness and **our oneness** are not separate, because His Oneness encompasses **our oneness**. 2 To join with me is to restore **God's** power to you because we are sharing **our oneness**. 3 I offer you only the recognition of **God's** power in you, **but in that recognition that God's power is in you**, lays all truth. 4 As we unite, we unite with **God**. 5 Glory be to the union of God and **God's** holy Sons! 6 All glory lies in **the union of God and God's holy Sons** <because> **God and God's holy Sons** are united. 7 The miracles we do bear witness to the Will of the Father for His Son, and to our joy in uniting with **God's** Will for us, **God's Sons**.

Note # 33: There is just the Oneness of "All That Is". Miracles, which are a change from misperception to correct perception, are natural because truth is the only reality of the One Self. Miracles merely allow deluded minds to reawaken to the truth that there is just One and we are that One. The Mind of God is perfect, whole and complete and nothing is outside of It.

T-8.V.4. When you unite with me you are uniting without the ego, because I have renounced the ego in myself and therefore **I** cannot unite with **your ego**. 2 Our union is therefore the way to renounce the ego in you. 3 The truth in both of us is beyond the ego. 4 Our success in transcending the ego is guaranteed by God, and I share this confidence for both of us and all of us **that we can transcend the ego because it is God's Will**. 5 I bring God's peace back to all **God's** children because I received **the peace of God** for us all. 6 Nothing can prevail against our united wills because nothing can prevail against God's **Will**.

Note # 34: God's oneness encompasses our oneness and our union of the Sonship with Jesus in the way that our Oneness renounces the ego and the belief in the separation. By joining with our brother, we reject the thought system of the ego, for the ego cannot join. With this rejection of the belief in separation, our ego fades into the nothingness from which it arose.

T-8.V.5. Would you know the Will of God for you? 2 Ask it of me who know **the Will of God** for you and you will find **the Will of God** 3 I will deny you nothing, as God denies me nothing. 4 **Our journey** is simply the journey back to God Who is our home. 5 Whenever fear intrudes anywhere along the road to peace, **this fear** is because the ego has attempted to join the journey with us and **the ego** cannot do so. 6 **The ego** sensing defeat

and angered by **potential defeat**, the ego regards itself as rejected and becomes retaliative
7 You are invulnerable to **the ego's** retaliation because I am with you. 8 On this journey
you have chosen me as your companion <instead> of the ego. 9 Do not attempt to hold on
to both the ego and me, or you will try to go in different directions and will lose the way.
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Note # 35: We cannot follow two opposing thought systems. By accepting Jesus or the
Holy Spirit's guidance, we are rejecting the thought system of the ego. The ego must be left
behind. The ego, the representative of the false and darkness, cannot stand the light of
truth.

T-8.V.6. The ego's way is not **my way**, but **the ego's way** is also not **your way**. 2
The Holy Spirit has one direction for all minds, and the one **way the Holy Spirit** taught me
is **your way, which is your Big "S" Self**. 3 Let us not lose sight of **the Holy Spirit's**
direction through illusions, for only illusions of another direction can obscure the one for
which God's Voice, **the Holy Spirit's voice**, speaks in all of us. 4 Never accord the ego the
power to interfere with the journey. 5 **The ego has no power**, because the journey is the
way to what is true. 6 Leave all illusions behind, and reach beyond all attempts of the ego
to hold you back. 7 I go before you because I am beyond the ego. 8 Reach, therefore, for
my hand because you want to transcend the ego. 9 My strength will never be wanting, and
if you choose to share **my strength** you will do so. 10 I give **my strength** willingly and
gladly, because I need you as much as you need me.

Note # 36: We, as decision makers, have to decide which of the two thought system's we
will follow. The ego's thought system teaches that your strength lies in you alone.
Therefore, your egoic belief in separation, individuality and specialness is stressed. The
ego reinforces these beliefs with false witness that we misperceive. We see ourselves as
limited ego-bodies in our dream world of provisional reality. We live in fear, lack and
vulnerability.

The Holy Spirit's thought system teaches that your strength lies in God. Its goal is
to reawaken you to what you really are. Its message is that you are a Oneness and not an
individual. It seeks to awaken you to your divine birthright as the Son of God. As God's
extension, you have been given everything because you are One with the Mind of God.

VI. The Treasure of God

T-8.VI.1. We are the joint will of the Sonship, whose Wholeness is for all. 2 We
begin the journey back **to the Oneness of what we really are** by setting out together, and
gather in our brothers as we continue together. 3 Every gain in our strength is offered for
all, so **our brothers** too can lay aside their weakness and add their strength to us. 4 God's
welcome waits for us all, and **God** will welcome us as I am welcoming you. 5 Forget not
the Kingdom of God for anything the world has to offer.

Note # 37: You cannot desire and value your provisional dream world of specialness and
also know God. What you value, you will choose to perceive. If you value separation,
individuality and specialness, you will choose to remain deluded. God cannot be found in
your fantasy world for God is real and the Sonship has never left his home, which is the
Mind of God. In the world of perception, what you choose to believe becomes your
provisional reality. It seems real only in the deluded mind of the dreamer.

T-8.VI.2. The world of **perception** can add nothing to the power and the glory of God and **God's** holy Sons, but **the world of perception** can blind the Sons to the Father if **God's** holy Sons behold **the world of perception**. 2 You cannot behold the world of **perception** and know God. 3 Only one, **either the world of perception or God**, is true. 4 I am come to tell you that the choice of which is true **that you believe to be your choice of between either the world of perception or God's reality**, is not yours to make. 5 If **the choice of which is true** were **yours to make** you would have destroyed yourself. 6 Yet God did not will the destruction of **God's** creations, having created **God's** creations for eternity. 7 **God's** Will has saved you, not from yourself but from your illusion of yourself. 8 **God** has saved you *<for>* yourself.

Note # 38: When ACIM states that if we “behold” the world of perception, it “can blind the Sons to the Father”, the word “behold” should be understood to mean that you have upgraded the dream of separation from a fantasy and given it a reality of its own. If you give all your perceptions over to the Holy Spirit, this world of perception will become the tool for your return to the truth. By following the egoic misperceptions of this world, your mind makes the fantasy of separation appear real. The acceptance of the dream of separation becomes your provisional reality that blinds you from the vision of the God's Oneness.

T-8.VI.3. Let us glorify **God** Whom the world denies, for over **God's** Kingdom the world has no power. 2 No one created by God can find joy in anything except the eternal; not because he is deprived of anything else, but because nothing else is worthy of him **who was created by God**. 3 What God and His Sons create is eternal, and in this, **the eternal**, and this only is their joy.

Note # 39: God's Will has saved us from our own illusions that we made into our dream world of separation. Our world of illusion adds nothing to the power of God or the Kingdom since it is nothing. Reality is changeless. It is eternal. Nothing in our world of provisional reality has permanence. Our world is based on our perceptions, beliefs and judgments, which change daily. Only in God's Kingdom can we find peace and joy. The Will of God insures that the eternal joy of the Kingdom will always be our reality. We can deny reality but our denial will not change the eternal reality of God's creations. Our illusions cannot change our divine spiritual nature that has been given to us by Our Creator.

T-8.VI.4. Listen to the story of the prodigal son, and learn what God's treasure is and **what your treasure is**: This son of a loving father left his home and thought he, **the son**, had squandered everything for nothing of any value, although **the son** had not understood its worthlessness at the time. p148 2 **The son** was ashamed to return to his father, because **the son** thought he, **the son**, had hurt **his father**. 3 Yet when **the son** came home the father welcomed **the son** with joy, because the son himself *<was>* his father's treasure. 4 **His father** wanted nothing else.

Note # 40: God does not judge. He only wills that His Son be happy. We are happy when we co-create with our Father. By this co-creative process, we complete God. We join our will with His Will as One. This is the extension of the Mind of God.

T-8.VI.5. God wants only His Son because **God's** Son is **God's** only treasure. 2 You want your creations as **God** wants His **creations**. 3 Your creations are your gift to the Holy Trinity. **Your creations are** created in gratitude for your creation. 4 **Your creations** do not leave you any more than you left your Creator, but **your creations** extend your creation as God extended Himself to you. 5 Can the creations of God Himself take joy in what is not real, **which is the egoic world of perception**? 6 And what is real except the creations of God and those that are created like **God's creations**? 7 Your creations love you as you love your Father for the gift of creation. 8 There is no other gift that is eternal, and therefore there is no other gift that is true. 9 How, then, can you accept anything else **than eternal creations** or give anything else **than eternal creations**, and expect joy in return? 10 And what else but joy would you want? 11 You made neither yourself nor your function. 12 You made only the **egoic** decision to be unworthy of both **yourself and your function**. 13 Yet you cannot make yourself unworthy because you are the treasure of God, and what **God** values, is valuable. 14 There can be no question of **what God values'** worth, because its value lies in God's sharing Himself with **whatever God values** and **thus** establishing **the value of whatever God values** forever.

Note # 41: We are God's treasure because the Sonship is God's creation. The function of the Sonship is to continue to extend or create as their Father created them. This extension of the Son of God is the Son's gift to His Father and to the Kingdom. It is God, not our ego, which establishes our worth. God knows His creations to be only perfect, whole and complete.

T-8.VI.6. Your function is to add to God's treasure by creating **your treasure**. 2 **God's Will** <to> you is **God's Will** <for> you. 3 **God** would not withhold creation from you because **God's** joy is in **creation**. 4 You cannot find joy except as God does **by creating like your Father**. 5 **God's** joy lay in creating you, and **God** extends **God's** Fatherhood to you so that you can extend yourself as **God** did. 6 You do not understand **that you can extend yourself as God did** because you do not understand **God**. 7 No one who does not accept his function can understand what **his function** is, and no one can accept his function unless he knows what <he> is. 8 Creation is the Will of God. 9 **God's** Will created you to create. 10 Your will was not created separate from **God's Will**, and so you must will as **God** wills.

Note # 42: Your function is to create as God created you, perfect whole and complete. Since you have free will, you can make the decision to believe that you are unworthy of your divine birthright, but you cannot change yourself or your function. Both were given by God to you and are thus, are eternal and changeless. This is God's Will. Joy is to be found in creation, which is the sharing and extending of oneself. It is by this extension of your Big "S" Self that one knows and realizes their own spiritual magnificence.

T-8.VI.7. An "unwilling will" does not mean anything, being a contradiction in terms that actually means nothing. 2 When you think you are unwilling to will with God, you are not thinking. 3 God's Will <is> Thought. 4 **God's Will being Thought** cannot be contradicted <by> thought. 5 God does not contradict Himself, and **God's** Sons, who are like **God**, cannot contradict themselves or **God**. 6 Yet **God's Sons'** thought is so powerful

that **God's Sons' thought** can even imprison the mind of God's Son, if **God's Sons** so choose to **imprison his own mind**. p149 7 This choice **for the self-imprisonment of the mind of God's own Son** does make the Son's function unknown to **the Son**, but never to his Creator. 8 And because **this choice by the Son to imprison his own mind** is not unknown to **God**, the Creator, **the Son's ability to will with God's Will**, is forever knowable to **God's Son**.

Note # 43: In reality there is only God's Will, which is Thought. Before the mad idea of the separation, only the thoughts harmonious with love, which are the Thoughts of God, existed. This was and is the thought system of the Holy Spirit, which knows that we are part of the Oneness. With the rise of the ego's thought system, we believed that we could think without God. These "private thoughts" that exist only in our imagination are projected into your deluded world of provisional reality. Your private thoughts have the ability to imprison your mind since your split mind projects these ideas out into its own dream world thus, "confirming" the error that the ego is real and that we exist separate from God. In the changeless Mind of God, your true power to create like God waits your reawakening from the erroneous belief that you could be limited ego-body. True creation only occurs when you think with God. When we think like God, we give all, to all. This is the co-creative function of creation.

T-8.VI.8. There is no question but one **question** you should ever ask of yourself;—"Do I want to know my Father's Will for me?" 2 **God** will not hide **His Will for you**. 3 **God** has revealed **His Will for you** to me because I asked **the question of God**, and learned of what **God** had already given. 4 Our function, **which is to create like Our Father**, is to work together, because apart from each other we cannot function at all. 5 The whole power of God's Son lies in all of us, but not in any of us alone. 6 God would not have us be alone because **<God>** does not will to be alone. 7 That is why **God** created His Son, and gave **His Son** the power to create with **God, their Father**. 8 Our creations are as holy as we are, and we are the Sons of God Himself, as holy as **God** is. 9 Through our creations we extend our love, and thus increase the joy of the Holy Trinity. 10 You do not understand **that we are as holy as God is and that we must extend our love like our Father**. **This is** because you who are God's Own treasure do not regard yourself as valuable. 11 Given this belief **that you are not valuable**, you cannot understand anything.

Note # 44: We are God's prodigal sons. God holds and guards our birthright and awaits our return to the Kingdom. We, the Thoughts of God, are God's treasure. Because we do not know what we are, we do not understand our value to Our Father. We fail to realize that we are the completion of Our Father. He is Cause and we His Effect. As such we are inseparable and priceless.

T-8.VI.9. I share with God the knowledge of the value **God** puts upon you. 2 My devotion to you is of **God**, being born of my knowledge of myself and **God**. 3 We, **the Sonship and God**, cannot be separated. 4 Whom God has joined cannot be separated, and God has joined all His Sons with Himself. 5 Can you be separated from your life and your being? 6 The journey to God is merely the reawakening of the knowledge of where you are always, and what you are forever. 7 **The journey to God** is a journey without distance to a goal that has never changed. 8 Truth can only be experienced. 9 **Truth** cannot be described and **truth** cannot be explained. 10 I can make you aware of the conditions of truth, but the

experience of **truth** is of God. 11 Together we can meet **truth's** conditions, but truth will dawn upon you of itself.

Note # 45: Truth will dawn upon you only when you choose to follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit. This is your reawakening to the truth of what and where you are. The truth is that you have never left the holographic Mind of God since what God Wills is eternal and thus, changeless. We cannot change our Cause. We must remain Its eternal Effect.

T-8.VI.10. What God has willed for you <is> yours. 2 **God** has given **God's Will** to His treasure, whose treasure **God's Will** is. 3 Your heart lies where your treasure is, **which is in your creations just** as does **God's heart lies with His treasure, which is God's Son**. 4 You who are beloved of God are wholly blessed. 5 Learn **that you who are beloved of God are wholly blessed** of me, and free the holy will of all those who are as blessed as you are. p150

Note # 46: By accepting the truth of the Atonement for oneself, you accept the Atonement for all your brothers. All parts of the Sonship are equal. The Sonship, being indivisible is joined as one.

VII. The Body as a Means of Communication

T-8.VII.1. Attack is always physical. 2 When attack in any form enters your mind you are equating yourself with a body, since this **belief that you are a body** is the ego's interpretation of the body. 3 You do not have to attack physically to accept this interpretation **that you are a body**. 4 You are accepting **this interpretation that you are a body** simply by the belief that attack can get you something you want. 5 If you did not believe **that you are a body**, the idea of attack would have no appeal for you. 6 When you equate yourself with a body you will always experience depression. 7 When a child of God thinks of himself in this way he is belittling himself, and seeing his brothers as similarly belittled. 8 Since he can find himself only in **his brother**, he has cut himself off from salvation.

Note #47: You are mind or spirit, and not the body. The idea that you are a body, confirms the ego's claim that you are a separate, special and unique individual. Separation and specialness are the natural outcome of the egoic thought system. Spirit or mind is a shared Oneness of Everything. When you already are "Everything", to argue for your "littleness" is a depressing thought. Anytime we block the natural flow of God's love to and through our mind, we will feel depressed, sad and lonely. Blocking this flow prevents us from fulfilling our function of co-creation. Being God's Child, we are joyous only when we create and extend like Our Father.

T-8.VII.2. Remember that the Holy Spirit interprets the body only as a means of communication. 2 Being the Communication Link between God and **God's** separated Sons, the Holy Spirit interprets everything you have made in the light of what **God** is. 3 The ego separates through the body. 4 The Holy Spirit reaches through **the body** to others. 5 You do not perceive your brothers as the Holy Spirit does, because you do not regard bodies solely as a means of joining minds and uniting **your brothers' mind** with yours and mine. 6 This interpretation of the body **as a means of communication and for the joining of**

minds will change your mind entirely about **the body's** value. 7 Of itself **the body** has **no value**.

Note # 48: The Holy Spirit utilizes the ego created body as a learning device to communicate with the various parts of the split Sonship to reawaken them to the truth of who they really are. A learning device has no value by itself. Its value comes from the usage of the learning device.

T-8.VII.3. If you use the body for attack, the body is harmful to you. 2 If you use **the body** only to reach the minds of those who believe they are bodies, and teach **the minds of those who believe they are bodies** <through> the body that this is not so, you will understand the power of the mind that is in you. 3 If you use the body for this and only for this, **which is the teaching that your brothers are not a body**, you cannot use **the body** for attack. 4 In the service of uniting **the body** becomes a beautiful lesson in communion, which has value until communion <is.> 5 This **lesson in communion** is God's way of making unlimited what you have limited. 6 The Holy Spirit does not see the body as you do, because the Holy Spirit knows the only reality of anything is the service **anything** renders God on behalf of the function **God** gives it.

Note #49: In the world of egoic perception, the body was made to symbolize and prove that we are a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies. The Holy Spirit has reinterpreted the function of the body and utilizes it as a learning device to teach that the Sonship is not the body, but rather a Oneness united with God. This is the truth that is taught through the Atonement process.

T-8.VII.4. Communication ends separation. 2 Attack promotes **separation**. 3 The body is beautiful or ugly, peaceful or savage, helpful or harmful, according to the use to which **the body** is put. 4 And in the body of another you will see the use to which you have put **your body**. 5 If the body becomes a means you give to the Holy Spirit to use on behalf of union of the Sonship, you will not see anything physical except as what **the body** is. 6 Use **the body** for truth and you will see **the body** truly. p151 7 Misuse **the body** and you will misunderstand **the body**, because you have already **misunderstand the body** <by> misusing **the body**. 8 Interpret anything apart from the Holy Spirit and you will mistrust **whatever you have interpreted apart from the Holy Spirit**. 9 This **mistrust caused by misinterpretation** will lead you to hatred and attack and loss of peace.

Note # 50: The body should be used only as a communication device to communicate only forgiveness and love. If we identify ourselves as the body, we will become fearful and use the body for attack.

T-8.VII.5. Yet all loss comes only from your own misunderstanding. 2 Loss of any kind is impossible. 3 But when you look upon a brother as a physical entity, his power and glory are "lost" to you and so are **your own power and glory "lost" to yourself**. 4 You have attacked **a brother**, but you must have attacked yourself first. 5 Do not see **a brother** this way for your own salvation, which must bring **a brother** his **salvation**. 6 Do not allow **a brother** to belittle himself in your mind, but give **a brother** freedom from his belief in littleness, and thus escape from **your belief in littleness**. 7 As part of you, **a brother** is holy. 8 As part of me, you are **holy**. 9 To communicate with part of God Himself is to

reach beyond the Kingdom to its Creator, through **God's Voice, which is the Holy Spirit,** which **God** has established as part of you.

Note # 51: We only can see in another what we believe is also in our mind. Thoughts never leave the mind of the thinker. Minds are joined and by discovering the Big "S" Self in another, we receive and give that same understanding to ourselves.

T-8.VII.6. Rejoice, then, that of yourself you can do nothing. 2 You are not <of> yourself. 3 **God** of Whom you are has willed your power and glory for you, with which you can perfectly accomplish **God's** holy Will for you when you accept God's holy Will for yourself. 4 **God** has not withdrawn **God's gifts of His holy Will** from you, but you believe you have withdrawn **God's gifts of His holy Will** from **God**. 5 Let no Son of God remain hidden for **God's Name's** sake, because **God's** Name is yours.

Note # 52: Without our Cause, we would cease to be. This is impossible since that would change God by making Him incomplete without His Effect. Our denial of our birthright did not impact our inheritance or our Source. Cause and Effect remain eternally linked as One. Our power flows from our Source, through us and extends beyond. We cannot hide from our Source. Only the egoic self attempts to deny its birthright by claiming that it does not know what it is.

T-8.VII.7. The Bible says, "The Word (or thought) was made flesh." 2 Strictly speaking this **idea that "The Word (or thought) was made flesh."** is impossible, since **this idea that "The Word or thought was made flesh."** seems to involve the translation of one order of reality into another **order of reality**. 3 Different orders of reality merely appear to exist, just as different orders of miracles **appear to exist**. 4 Thought cannot be made into flesh except by belief, since thought is not physical. 5 Yet thought is communication, for which the body can be used. 6 **Communication** is the only natural use to which **the body** can be put **to use**. 7 To use the body unnaturally is to lose sight of the Holy Spirit's purpose **which is to reawaken, or communicate, to you what you really are,** and thus to confuse the goal of **the Holy Spirit's curriculum, which is to reawaken God's Son to his divine birthright and thus reclaim joy, peace, and knowledge.**

Note # 53: The Holy Spirit can use the body for communication so that the split-minded can once again know themselves. The body, being form, cannot be shared and is not real. God did not make the body; our deluded mind did. God does not create other than like Himself.

T-8.VII.8. There is nothing so frustrating to a learner as a curriculum he cannot learn. 2 **A learner's** sense of adequacy suffers, and **the learner** must become depressed. 3 Being faced with an impossible learning situation is the most depressing thing in the world. 4 In fact, **being faced with an impossible learning situation** is ultimately why the world itself is depressing. 5 The Holy Spirit's curriculum is never depressing, because **the Holy Spirit's curriculum** is a curriculum of joy. 6 Whenever the reaction to learning is depression, **the reaction** is because the true goal of the curriculum has been lost sight of.

Note # 54: The Holy Spirit utilizes the body to communicate that you are not the body; you are mind. The Holy Spirit's goal is the end of your belief in separation. The goal of the

Holy Spirit's curriculum is that you know yourself. The ego utilizes the body for attack, which promotes the belief in separation. The ego's goal is that you never know yourself. Our true goal is to be happy. The ego's goal is to deny the truth that you are only love and God's joy. We cannot be happy trying to find love and joy in an illusion designed to embody fear, loneliness and separation.

T-8.VII.9. In this world, not even the body is perceived as whole. 2 **The body's** purpose is seen as fragmented into many functions with little or no relationship to each other, so that **the body** appears to be ruled by chaos. p152 3 **The body's purpose as** guided by the ego *<is.>* **chaos.** 4 **The body's purpose as** guided by the Holy Spirit is not **chaos.** 5 Under **the guidance of the Holy Spirit the body** becomes a means by which the part of the mind you tried to separate *<from>* spirit can reach beyond **the split mind's** distortions and return *<to>* spirit. 6 The ego's temple, **which is the body**, thus becomes the temple of the Holy Spirit, where devotion to **the Holy Spirit** replaces devotion to the ego. 7 In this sense the body does become a temple to God; His Voice, **the Holy Spirit**, abides in **the body** by directing the use to which **the body** is put to use.

Note # 55: The Holy Spirit abides in the High-Self or Christ conscious part of mind. The Holy Spirit's home cannot be the physical body since the body is part of the illusion of separateness. The Holy Spirit reinterprets the ego's temple for separation, which is the body, and transforms it into a communication device to teach only union and truth.

T-8.VII.10. Healing is the result of using the body solely for communication. 2 Since **using the body solely for communication** is natural **using the body solely for communication** heals by making whole, which is also natural. 3 All mind is whole, and the belief that part of **the mind** is physical, or not mind, is a fragmented or sick interpretation. 4 Mind cannot be made physical, but **the mind** can be made manifest *<through>* the physical if **the mind** uses the body to go beyond itself. 5 By reaching out, the mind extends itself. 6 **The mind** does not stop at the body, for if **the mind** does **stop at the body, the mind** is blocked in **the mind's** purpose, **which is extension or creation.** 7 A mind that has been blocked has allowed itself to be vulnerable to attack, because a **blocked mind** has turned against itself.

Note # 56: The mind is spirit. The mind is not the physical brain. A split mind is not whole and, therefore, is unable or blocked in its ability to create or extend itself like the Father creates. The body is used by the Holy Spirit to teach forgiveness and to reestablish the unity of the Sonship. Teaching forgiveness is the function of the Holy Spirit and leads to our acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves. The block that needs to be removed is the thought system of the ego. This removal returns the mind to its natural state of wholeness.

T-8.VII.11. The removal of blocks, then, is the only way to guarantee help and healing. 2 Help and healing are the normal expressions of a mind that is working through the body, but not *<in>* **the body.** 3 If the mind believes the body is **the mind's** goal **the mind** will distort **the mind's** perception of the body, and by blocking **the mind's** own extension beyond **the body, the mind** will induce illness by fostering separation. 4 Perceiving the body as a separate entity cannot but foster illness, because **perceiving the body, as a separate entity** is not true. 5 A medium of communication loses its usefulness if **the**

medium of communication is used for anything else. 6 To use a medium of communication as a medium of attack is an obvious confusion in purpose.

Note # 57: Our purpose forms the basis for our perception. If we have differing purposes such as communication versus attack, we will have differing perceptions of the same experience. Purpose determines our perception. Split purposes result in conflict and confusion.

T-8.VII.12. To communicate is to join and to attack is to separate. 2 How can you do both simultaneously with the same thing and not suffer? 3 Perception of the body can be unified only by one purpose, **which is the purpose of healing, or joining.** 4 This **unified purpose of healing, or joining** releases the mind from the temptation to see the body in many lights, and gives **the body** over entirely to the One Light in which **the body** can be really understood. 5 To confuse a learning device, **the body**, with a curriculum goal, **which is to know thyself through extension**, is a fundamental confusion that blocks the understanding of both **the learning device and the curriculum.** 6 Learning must lead beyond the body to the re-establishment of the power of the mind in **the mind.** 7 **This re-establishment of the power of the mind can** be accomplished only if the mind extends to other minds, and does not arrest itself in **the mind's** extension. 8 This arrest **of the mind's extension to other minds** is the cause of all illness, because only extension is the mind's function. p153

Note # 58: The Holy Spirit utilizes the body as a learning device for joining one brother's mind to another. The ego utilizes the body to prove separation and, therefore, the body becomes an instrument for attacking a brother. The Holy Spirit's learning curriculum is a process to lead the mind beyond the limiting belief that the mind is a body, thus re-establishing the power of the mind. The power of the mind is re-established by the reuniting of the mind of one brother with another. By healing, the Sonship to the reality of its wholeness, the power of extension, or creation, is returned to the Sonship.

T-8.VII.13. The opposite of joy is depression. 2 When your learning promotes depression instead of joy, you cannot be listening to God's joyous Teacher, **the Holy Spirit**, and learning **the Holy Spirit's** lessons. 3 To see a body as anything except a means of communication is to limit your mind and to hurt yourself. 4 Health is therefore nothing more than united purpose. 5 If the body is brought under the purpose of the mind, **the mind** becomes whole because the mind's purpose is one. 6 Attack can only be an assumed purpose of the body, because apart from the mind the body has no purpose at all.

Note # 59: Health is the united purpose of the mind. When we speak of healing, we are not speaking of physical healing, since the body is not "real." Rather, it is the healing of the split-mind and thus, the healing of the Sonship from the insane idea that it could be separate from the Mind of God. By healing, we realize that our will and God's Will are One. We understand that cause and effect are forever intertwined as one.

T-8.VII.14. You are not limited by the body, and thought cannot be made flesh. 2 Yet mind can be manifested through the body if **the mind** goes beyond **the body** and does not interpret **the body** as a limitation of **the mind.** 3 Whenever you see another as limited to or by the body, you are imposing this **same limitation to or by the body upon** yourself. 4

Are you willing to accept this **limitation of the body**, when your whole purpose for learning should be to escape from limitations? 5 To conceive of the body as a means of attack and to believe that joy could possibly result **from attack** is a clear-cut indication of a poor learner. 6 **The poor learner** has accepted **an egoic learning goal of attack and is thus promoting separation. This inappropriate learning goal is** in obvious contradiction to the unified purpose of the **Holy Spirit's curriculum, which is health and joining**, and **the contradictory egoic goal of attack** is interfering with **the poor learner's** ability to accept **the curriculum's purpose of healing** as his own **purpose**.

Note # 60: Being created as a Oneness of Everything, we can never be happy with being less. To misperceive any part of the Oneness as limited is to place that same limitation on oneself. Separation and Oneness are like parallel lines; they never meet. We cannot have a purpose different than the purpose God established for His Son. Our unified purpose must be the co-creative extension of the Mind of God. Creation is the joy of God.

T-8.VII.15. Joy is unified purpose, and unified purpose is only God's **purpose**. 2 When **your purpose** is unified **your purpose is God's purpose**. 3 Believe you can interfere with **God's** purpose, and you need salvation. 4 You have condemned yourself, but condemnation is not of God. 5 Therefore, **since condemnation is not of God, condemnation** is not true. 6 No more are any of **condemnation's** seeming results **true**. 7 When you see a brother as a body, you are condemning **a brother** because you have condemned yourself **as a body**. 8 Yet if all condemnation is unreal, and **condemnation** must be unreal since **condemnation** is a form of attack, then **condemnation** can *<have>* no results.

Note # 61: God does not judge. If God's child chooses to pretend that he is something that he is not, God allows the child to play his childish games. The only thing God insures is that when the child grows tired of his war games, the child will always find his way back to his Father's house. God placed the Holy Spirit within our playful mind to insure our safe return.

T-8.VII.16. Do not allow yourself to suffer from imagined results of **condemnation which are** not true. 2 Free your mind from the belief that **condemnation** is possible. 3 In **condemnation's** complete impossibility lies your only hope for release **from condemnation**. 4 But what other hope would you want? 5 Freedom from illusions lies only in not believing **the illusions**. 6 There is no attack, but there *<is>* unlimited communication and therefore unlimited power and wholeness. 7 The power of wholeness is extension. 8 Do not arrest your thought in this world **of illusion**, and you will open your mind to creation in God. p154

Note # 62: Freedom from illusion lies in you not believing, actually, never even perceiving the illusion as a threat to your true reality. Freedom lies in truth. Illusion is false and, therefore, has no basis in reality, which is the Kingdom. What is false is false and what is true has never changed. The Holy Spirit's task is to gently awaken a sleeping child's mind to the fact that it was only dreaming. Once the child realizes that he is the dreamer, he can choose to release himself from all of his childish fears. He can leave the game of separation behind and rejoin the Kingdom and co-create with His Father.

VIII. The Body as Means or End

T-8.VIII.1. Attitudes toward the body are attitudes toward attack. 2 The ego's definitions of anything are childish, and **the ego's definitions** are always based on what **the ego** believes the thing is <for.> 3 **The ego's definitions are always based on what the ego believes the thing is <for.>** because **the ego** is incapable of true generalizations, and equates what **the ego** sees with the function **the ego** ascribes to **the thing**. 4 **The ego** does not equate **the thing** with what **the thing** <is.> 5 To the ego the body is to attack <with.> 6 Equating you with the body, **the ego** teaches that <you> are to attack with. 7 The body, then, is not the source of **the body's** own health. 8 The body's condition lies solely in your interpretation of **the body's** function. 9 Functions are part of being since **functions** arise from **being**, but the relationship is not reciprocal **and therefore being does not arise from functions**. 10 The whole does define the part, but the part does not define the whole. 11 Yet to know in part is to know entirely because of the fundamental difference between knowledge and perception. 12 In perception the whole is built up of parts that can separate and reassemble in different constellations. 13 But knowledge never changes, so **knowledge's** constellation is permanent. 14 The idea of part-whole relationships has meaning only at the level of perception, where change is possible. 15 Otherwise, there is no difference between the part and whole.

Note # 63: Knowledge is unchanging and like a hologram since each part contains the whole. If truth were changeable, it would not be truth. Perception is based on interpretation and, therefore, changes as judgments shift. The perceptions of the mind under the thought system of the ego change from time to time because the ego knows nothing and is always uncertain. Time is the measure of change. Time exists and has a function in the ego's thought system since there is something that changes and, therefore, is available to measure. The ego's thought system is based on individuality and inequality of the parts, so different combinations result in different answers. The Holy Spirit's thought system is based on equality. In the thought system of the Holy Spirit, all parts are the same since all parts contain everything. These indivisible parts are eternal. They do not change and thus, time in the Kingdom does not exist since there is no change to measure. Time is only necessary in the unreal world of perception. In the world of perception, time allows the split-minded to relearn what they are by healing and rejoining as one whole mind.

T-8.VIII.2. The body exists in a world that seems to contain two voices, **the ego's and the Holy Spirit's. Both voices appear to be fighting for the possession of the body.** 2 In this perceived constellation the body is seen as capable of shifting **the body's** allegiance from one **voice** to the other **voice**, making the concepts of both health and sickness meaningful. 3 The ego makes a fundamental confusion between means and end as **the ego** always does. 4 Regarding the body as an end, the ego has no real use for **the body** because **the body** is <not> an end. 5 You must have noticed an outstanding characteristic of every end that the ego has accepted as **the ego's** own. 6 When you have achieved **the end**, <**the end has not satisfied you.**> 7 This is why the ego is forced to shift ceaselessly from one goal to another, so that you will continue to hope **the ego** can yet offer you something.

Note # 64: The body, to the Holy Spirit, is a learning device, a means, which can be utilized for communication and joining. The thought system of the ego promises you happiness when you obtain something outside yourself. Yet, once the goal is achieved, you realize that it did not bring about the promised result. Due to this failure in obtaining

happiness and peace, the ego then must substitute a new goal with the same promised results of happiness and completeness. The ego's motto is, "Seek and never find."

T-8.VIII.3. It has been particularly difficult to overcome the ego's belief in the body as an end, because **the ego's belief in the body as an end** is synonymous with the belief in attack as an end. 2 The ego has a profound investment in sickness. 3 If you are sick, how can you object to the ego's firm belief that you are not invulnerable? 4 This **idea that since the body is sick, you are not invulnerable**, is an appealing argument from the ego's point of view, because **the argument** obscures the obvious attack that underlies the sickness. 5 If you recognized **the obvious attack that underlies the sickness** and also decided against attack, you could not give **or allow** this false witness of sickness to the ego's witness stand. p155

Note # 65: You must decide whether you are a separate ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies, or if you are a Child of God, a Oneness, perfect, whole and complete. Is the body what you are (an end), or is the body a learning device (a means)? Are you limitless spirit, or are you a limited body?

T-8.VIII.4. It is hard to perceive sickness as a false witness, because you do not realize that **sickness** is entirely out of keeping with what you want. 2 This witness, **called sickness**, then, appears to be innocent and trustworthy because you have not seriously cross-examined **this witness, called sickness**. 3 If you had **seriously cross-examined this witness, called sickness**, you would not consider sickness such a strong witness on behalf of the ego's views. 4 A more honest statement would be that those who want the ego are predisposed to defend **the ego**. 5 Therefore, **those who are predisposed to defend the ego's** choice of witnesses should be suspect from the beginning. 6 The ego does not call upon witnesses who would disagree with **the ego's** case, nor does the Holy Spirit **call upon witnesses who would disagree with the ego's case**. 7 I have said that judgment is the function of the Holy Spirit, and **the function of judgment is one the Holy Spirit** is perfectly equipped to fulfill. 8 The ego as a judge gives anything but an impartial judgment. 9 When the ego calls on a witness, **the ego** has already made the witness an ally.

Note # 66: The Holy Spirit does not call witness to testify against the ego since that would be an attack that would confirm the existence of the ego. The ego is not real as it is only a product of false thinking. The Holy Spirit takes the witnesses that the ego has called into your experience and converts them into witnesses for the truth. When we ask for guidance, we choose again and transform egoic misperception into correct perception. When the thinking is corrected; the ego disappears.

T-8.VIII.5. It is still true that the body has no function of itself, because **the body** is not an end. 2 The ego, however, establishes **the body** as an end because, as such, **the body's** true function **as a learning device to facilitate communication and joining** is obscured. 3 **To obscure something's true function** is the purpose of everything the ego does. 4 **The ego's** sole aim is to lose sight of the function of everything. 5 A sick body does not make any sense. 6 **A sick body** could not make sense because sickness is not what the body is for. 7 Sickness is meaningful only if the two basic premises on which the ego's interpretation of the body rests are true; **the first basic premises is** that the body is for

attack, and **the second basic premises is** that you are a body. 8 Without these **two** premises **that the body is for attack and you are a body**, sickness is inconceivable.

Note # 67: Perception follows purpose. For the ego, the body's purpose is to prove that you are not unlimited, invulnerable spirit. A sick body is the ego's proof in the reality of the separation.

T-8.VIII.6. Sickness is a way of demonstrating that you can be hurt. 2 **Sickness** is a witness to your frailty, your vulnerability, and your extreme need to depend on external guidance. 3 The ego uses **sickness** as **the ego's** best argument for your need for **< the ego's >** guidance. 4 **The ego** dictates endless prescriptions for avoiding catastrophic outcomes. 5 The Holy Spirit, perfectly aware of the same situation, does not bother to analyze **the same situation** at all. 6 If data are meaningless there is no point in analyzing **the meaningless data**. 7 The function of truth is to collect information that is true. 8 **<Any>** way you handle error results in nothing. 9 The more complicated the results become the harder it may be to recognize **the nothingness of the error**, but it is not necessary to examine all possible outcomes to which premises give rise in order to judge **the error** truly.

Note # 68: It is not necessary to review all possible outcomes that may follow from insane thinking. Once the original idea is determined to be insane, we need not follow it down to all its logical conclusions. The Holy Spirit knows what you really are and, therefore, understands that the entire thought system of the ego rests on the ego's false idea that the separation occurred and that you are a body. Once you accept the falseness of the ego's first premise, anything that follows logically from the ego's thought system cannot be trusted.

Example: Only humans have feathers. Birds have feathers. Therefore, birds are human. This is a logical conclusion but it is false since the major premise, "Only humans have feathers" is wrong.

T-8.VIII.7. A learning device is not a teacher. 2 **A learning device** cannot tell you how you feel. 3 You do not know how you feel because you have accepted the ego's confusion, and you therefore believe that a learning device, **the body**, **<can>** tell you how you feel. p156 4 Sickness is merely another example of your insistence on asking guidance of a teacher, **the ego**, who does not know the answer. 5 The ego is incapable of knowing how you feel. 6 When I said that the ego does not know anything, I said the one thing about the ego that is wholly true. 7 But there is a corollary **to fact that the ego does not know anything. This corollary is** if only knowledge has being and the ego has no knowledge, then the ego has no being.

Note # 69: The ego's only existence comes from the power your mind chooses to give the ego. The ego was "made" by a split mind. Heal the split mind and the ego disappears. The ego has no power of being for it is not real and, therefore, the ego has no reality in the Mind of God.

T-8.VIII.8. You might well ask how the voice of something that does not exist, **the ego**, can be so insistent. 2 Have you thought about the distorting power of something you want, even if **that something** is not real? 3 There are many instances of how what you want

distorts perception. 4 No one can doubt the ego's skill in building up false cases. 5 Nor can anyone doubt your willingness to listen **to the ego's false cases** until you choose not to accept anything except truth. 6 When you lay the ego aside, **the ego** will be gone. 7 The Holy Spirit's Voice is as loud as your willingness to listen. 8 **The Holy Spirit's Voice** cannot be louder without violating your freedom of choice, which the Holy Spirit seeks to restore, never to undermine.

Note # 70: What we value, we call into our experience. Because we value the egoic promise of specialness and individuality that comes along with the belief in separation from the Oneness, we want and falsely choose the separation to be our "truth." Because of free will, we have been given the power to either create the real or make the false appear real. When we choose to "create" differently from God (technically make) we choose to exclude and thus, refuse to extend perfection. It is our desire for specialness that makes the voice for the ego so insistent. Unfortunately, for the decision-maker, with the choice for specialness comes the unwanted baggage of limitation, sin, guilt and fear. We want specialness and individuality, but we get "littleness" and vulnerability instead.

T-8.VIII.9. The Holy Spirit teaches you to use your body only to reach your brothers, so **the Holy Spirit** can teach **the Holy Spirit's** message through you. 2 **Teaching the Holy Spirit's message through you** will heal **your brothers** and therefore heal you. 3 Everything used in accordance with its function as the Holy Spirit sees it cannot be sick. 4 Everything used **not in accordance with its function as the Holy Spirit sees it, is sick.** 5 Do not allow the body to be a mirror of a split mind. 6 Do not let **the body** be an image of your own perception of littleness. 7 Do not let **the body** reflect your decision to attack. 8 Health is seen as the natural state of everything when interpretation is left to the Holy Spirit, Who perceives no attack on anything. 9 Health is the result of relinquishing all attempts to use the body lovelessly. 10 Health is the beginning of the proper perspective on life under the guidance of the one Teacher, **the Holy Spirit**, Who knows what life is, **the Holy Spirit** being the Voice for Life Itself.

Note # 71: The Holy Spirit utilizes the body as a teaching device. As such, the body is a means to communicate the Holy Spirit's message to you and your brothers that you are unlimited spirit and part of the unified Sonship. This is done by forgiveness and the eventual acceptance of the Atonement for yourself. The Holy Spirit is the Voice for Life, which is the Spirit of God. God is Love and Love is Life. We are the Children of the Living God.

IX. Healing as Corrected Perception

T-8.IX.1. I said before that the Holy Spirit is the Answer. 2 **The Holy Spirit** is the Answer to everything, because **the Holy Spirit** knows what the answer to everything is. 3 The ego does not know what a real question is, although **the ego** asks an endless number of **questions.** 4 Yet you can learn **that the ego does not know what a real question is,** as you learn to question the value of the ego, and thus establish your ability to evaluate **the ego's** questions. 5 When the ego tempts you to sickness do not ask the Holy Spirit to heal the body, for **to heal the body** would merely be to accept the ego's belief that the body is the proper aim of healing. p157 6 Ask, rather, that the Holy Spirit teach you the right *<perception>* of the body, for perception alone can be distorted. 7 Only perception can be sick, because only perception can be wrong.

Note # 72: Ask that the Holy Spirit correct your misperception of the purpose of the body. The body's purpose is that of a learning device for communication. It is a means not an end. It is your mind's misperception not that of the body's that leads to the sickness of the body.

T-8.IX.2. Wrong perception is the wish that things be as **the things** are not. 2 The reality of everything is totally harmless, because total harmless is the condition of **everything's real** reality. 3 **Total harmless** is also the condition of your awareness of **everything's real** reality. 4 You do not have to seek reality. 5 **Reality** will seek you and find you when you meet **reality's** conditions. 6 **Reality's harmless** conditions are part of what **reality** is. 7 And this part only, **that you be totally harmless**, is up to you. 8 The rest is of **reality**, itself. 9 You need do so little because your little part of **being totally harmless** is so powerful that **being totally harmless** will bring the whole to you. 10 Accept, then, your little part, and let the whole be yours.

Note # 73: Your part is to correct your wrong perception that you are a body that can attack and be attacked. Wrong perception only requires the acceptance of reality as it is. Truth can be obscured by the false but truth still remains hidden behind the cloak of darkness. Reality is found in the Mind of God, which we share. Reality is rediscovering what you really are. The ego's thought system utilizes the world of your provisional reality to attempt to "prove" that you are not the Son of God, created perfect, whole and complete. Fantasy is not your true reality.

Being totally harmless means that we are powerless to change the Will of God. Our misperceptions have no ability to impact or change the truth about God's perfect Creation. Our egoic thoughts cannot change the Oneness that is the Mind of God.

T-8.IX.3. Wholeness heals because **wholeness** is of the mind. 2 All forms of sickness, even unto death, are physical expressions of the fear of awakening **to the wholeness of the mind**. 3 **All forms of sickness** are attempts to reinforce sleeping out of fear of waking. 4 This "**sleeping**" **out of fear of waking**, is a pathetic way of trying not to see by rendering the faculties for seeing, **which is the mind, not the physical eyes**, ineffectual. 5 "Rest in peace" is a blessing for the living, not the dead, because rest comes from waking, not from sleeping. 6 Sleep is withdrawing; waking is joining. 7 Dreams are illusions of joining, because **dreams** reflect the ego's distorted notions about what joining is. 8 Yet the Holy Spirit, too, has use for sleep, and can use dreams on behalf of waking if you will let Him.

Note # 74: Sickness is the result of the splitting of our mind that arose from our belief in the separation. The split mind holds within it two conflicting thought systems. The ego's thought system believes in separation, individual "littleness" and limitation. Your world of provisional reality is the ego's witness that you are a limited ego-body. The Holy Spirit's thought system knows the truth about what you really are, and always "sees" you as an unlimited spirit, part of the Mind of God. The Holy Spirit utilizes your world of provisional reality and reinterprets this "dream world" based on truth. He asks you to choose again. By choosing for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are called to reawaken from the deep sleep that we have fallen into. The Holy Spirit can transform our egoic misperception by removing the false aspects of fear and allowing only loving and forgiving aspects to

remain. Thus, egoic misperceptions are realigned with the truth and become correct perception that witnesses for only joining and union as one.

T-8.IX.4. How you wake is the sign of how you have used sleep. 2 To whom did you give **your sleep and dreams**? 3 Under which teacher did you place **your sleep**? 4 Whenever you wake dispiritedly, **your sleep** was not given to the Holy Spirit. 5 Only when you awaken joyously have you utilized sleep according to **the Holy Spirit's** purpose. 6 You can indeed be "drugged" by sleep, if you have misused **sleep** on behalf of sickness. 7 Sleep is no more a form of death than death is a form of unconsciousness. 8 Complete unconsciousness is impossible. 9 You can rest in peace only because you are awake.

Note # 75: The mind is always awake even when we appear to be physically sleeping. Sleeping is the withdrawal or resting of our conscious mind. Yet, our subconscious mind is active and continues to function. If we have given our subconscious mind over to the thought system of the ego, our subconscious mind will continue to manifest and call into our experiences proof that we are a vulnerable and limited ego-body. If the subconscious mind is given over to the Holy Spirit's thought system, it will attempt to remember what we really are. Sleep, therefore, can be utilized to "withdraw" or awaken from our dream world of provisional reality into the truth that we are unlimited Spirit.

T-8.IX.5. Healing is release from the fear of waking and the substitution of the decision to wake. 2 The decision to wake is the reflection of the will to love, since all healing involves replacing fear with love. 3 The Holy Spirit cannot distinguish among degrees of error, for if **the Holy Spirit** taught that one form of sickness is more serious than another, **the Holy Spirit** would be teaching that one error can be more real than another **error**. p158 4 **The Holy Spirit's** function is to distinguish only between the false and the true, replacing the false with the true.

Note # 76: There is no degree of difficulty because there is nothing more false than the false. To the Holy Spirit, everything is either black or white. There is just the choice between the true and the false. Yet, if choice does not result in a change in outcome, can it be a viable choice? The Holy Spirit recognizes that black, the false, is really no choice since it has no lasting and real effect. The Holy Spirit, therefore, merely advises that you simply choose again. When the choice for truth is finally made, the false always fades away into the nothingness from which it came.

T-8.IX.6. The ego, which always wants to weaken the mind, tries to separate **the mind** from the body in an attempt to destroy **the mind**. 2 Yet the ego actually believes that **the ego** is protecting **the body**. 3 **This belief that the ego is protecting the body** is because the ego believes that mind is dangerous, and that to make **the body** mindless is to heal. 4 But to make **mind** mindless is impossible, since **to make mind mindless** would mean to make nothing out of what God created, **which is only mind or spirit**. 5 The ego despises weakness, even though **the ego** makes every effort to induce **weakness**. 6 The ego wants only what **the ego** hates. 7 To the ego **wanting only what the ego hates** is perfectly sensible. 8 Believing in the power of attack, the ego wants attack.

Note # 77: The ego wants the mind to forget that the mind is the decision-maker. If the ego can convince the mind that it is a ego-body rather than spirit, mind or thought, the

mind will “forget” that the mind is the decision-maker. If the mind abdicates its decision-making abilities, the egoic thought system can fill this void. As such, the ego “existence” depends upon keeping the mind in this deluded state of consciousness. The ego’s goal is to keep you mindless and for you to identify yourself only as the body. Attack is the way to reinforce this belief that you are a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies.

T-8.IX.7. The Bible enjoins you to be perfect, to heal all errors, to take no thought of the body as separate and to accomplish all things in my name. 2 This is not my name alone, for our **being** is a shared identification. 3 The Name of God's Son is One, and you are enjoined to do the works of love because we share this Oneness. 4 Our minds are whole because **our minds** are one. 5 If you are sick you are withdrawing from me. 6 Yet you cannot withdraw from me alone. 7 You can only withdraw from yourself *<and>* me.

Note # 78: You withdraw from the Oneness when you make yourself sick and claim that you are little. Sickness arises from your belief in split-mindedness. When we are sick, we have chosen to withdraw from the truth of our Big “S” Self and all others. We deny our Oneness with the Mind of God.

T-8.IX.8. You have surely begun to realize that “A Course In Miracles” is a very practical course, and one that means exactly what A Course In Miracles’ says. 2 I would not ask you to do things you cannot do, and it is impossible that I could do things you cannot do. 3 Given **that it is impossible that I could do things you cannot do**, and given this quite literally, nothing can prevent you from doing exactly what I ask, and everything argues *<for>* your doing **exactly what I ask**. 4 I give you no limits because God lays **no limits** upon you. 5 When you limit yourself we are not of one mind, and that is sickness. 6 Yet sickness is not of the body, but **sickness is** of the mind. 7 All forms of sickness are signs that the mind is split, and **that the mind** does not accept a unified purpose.

Note # 79: All parts of the Sonship, including Jesus, are equal. When we see differences and limitations, it is due to our valuing specialness, individuality and separation. Our mind is split trying to serve two masters. Healing requires one unified purpose to return wholeness to the split-minded. Our Big “S” Self can never accept the ego’s thought system. Jesus has demonstrated that only the Holy Spirit’s thought system can unify the split-mind and thus, conquer the illusion of the body and its associated death.

T-8.IX.9. The unification of purpose, then, is the Holy Spirit's only way of healing **your mind’s belief that it is separate and therefore split**. 2 This is because **the mind** is the only level at which healing means anything. 3 The re-establishing of meaning in a chaotic thought system *<is>* the way to heal a chaotic thought system. 4 Your task is only to meet the conditions for meaning, since meaning itself is of God. 5 Yet your return to meaning is essential to **God**, because your meaning is part of **God**. 6 Your healing, then, is part of **God’s** health, since **your health** is part of His Wholeness. 7 **God** cannot lose **His Wholeness**, but you *<can>* not know **God’s Wholeness**. 8 Yet **God’s Wholeness** is still **God’s Will** for you, and **God’s Will** must stand forever and in all things. p159

Note # 80: Sickness is of the mind and, therefore, the mind must be healed because it is at that level that the problem occurred. To attempt to heal the body would be addressing in symptom rather than the cause. The cause of sickness is the belief in separation, which

resulted in the appearance of false choices for our purpose. These different choices in purpose results in conflict and competition within a now “split mind” that claims that it did not know what it was. The split mind gave rise to the ego and the egoic thought system. By healing, the Holy Spirit re-establishes the wholeness of the mind by once again unifying the purpose of the mind. This unified purpose is the reestablishment of the Sonship to the truth of the Oneness, the Sonship return to knowledge and the fulfilling of the Son’s function as a co-creator with His Father. The ego’s chaotic thought system is discarded for the thought system of truth, which is the Holy Spirit’s thought system. Our will and God’s Will are recognized as the same Will. Thus, healing re-established the wholeness of our minds with the Mind of God.