

Chapter 26.

THE TRANSITION

I. The "Sacrifice" of Oneness

T-26.I.1. In the "dynamics" of attack is sacrifice a key idea. 2 **Sacrifice** is the pivot upon which all compromise, all desperate attempts to strike a bargain, and all conflicts achieve a seeming balance. 3 **Sacrifice** is the symbol of the central theme that *<somebody must lose.>* 4 **Sacrifice's** focus on the body is apparent, for **sacrifice** is always an attempt to limit loss. 5 The body is itself a sacrifice; a giving up of power in the name of saving just a little **power** for yourself. 6 To see a brother in another body, separate from **your body**, is the expression of a wish to see a little part of **your brother** and sacrifice the rest of **the One Self**. 7 Look at the world as **bodily forms**, and you will see nothing attached to anything beyond itself. 8 All seeming entities can come a little nearer, or go a little farther off, but cannot join.

Note # 1: Bodies cannot join, only minds can. Identify anything as a body and you limit it. Spirit is an unlimited Oneness. By egoically focusing on form, not content, we make the separation appear real.

T-26.I.2. The world of **perception that** you see is based on "sacrifice" of oneness. 2 **This egoic world of form** is a picture of complete disunity and total lack of joining. 3 Around each entity is built a wall so seeming solid that **each entity** looks as if what is inside **the wall** can never reach without, and what is **outside the body-wall** can never reach and join with what is locked away within the wall. 4 Each part of **the Oneness** must sacrifice the other part **outside its own body-wall**, to keep itself complete as a **separate ego-body**. 5 For if they joined each one would lose its own **separate ego-body's** identity, and by their separation as a **body** are their selves' **egoically** maintained.

Note # 2: The body is the symbol of the separation. Seeing ourselves as separate ego-bodies, we bear false witness against our spiritual essences. To define is to limit. When we identify ourselves as the body, we raise the body's form over our spirit's content. Form may appear diverse and different, yet the content of our spiritual Oneness remains the same. Although form appears to witness for separation, we remain a Oneness.

T-26.I.3. The little that the body fences off becomes the **little "s"** self, preserved through sacrifice of all the rest of **the Oneness**. 2 And **now you perceive that** all the rest of **the Oneness** must lose **you**, this little **separate ego-body** part. **The remaining "partial oneness" now must remain** incomplete to keep its own **separate** identity intact. 3 In this **misperception** of yourself as **the body**, the body's loss would be a sacrifice indeed. 4 For sight of bodies becomes the sign that sacrifice is limited, and something still remains for you alone. 5 And for this little **part that is perceived as separate from the Oneness** to belong to you are limits placed on everything outside, just as **limits** are **placed** on everything you think is yours **inside the body**. 6 For giving and receiving are the same **according to the laws of God**. 7 And to accept the limits of a body is to impose these **bodily** limits on each brother whom you see. 8 For you must see **your brother** as you see yourself, **which is as a separate ego-body**.

Note # 3: To see the body is to identify something as limited. When we claim to be the little "s" self, we deny our Christ consciousness, which is the Big "S" Self of the Oneness.

We sacrifice our spiritual magnificence for the desire to be a little “s” self that claims to be special. Thus, we deny the reality of being a Oneness of everything, for our erroneous claim for egoic littleness and limitation.

T-26.I.4. The body *<is>* a loss, and **the body** *<can>* be made to sacrifice. 2 And while you see your brother as a body, apart from you and separate in his **bodily prison** cell, you are demanding sacrifice of him and you. 3 What greater sacrifice could be demanded than that God's Son perceive himself without his Father? p542 4 And his Father, **God, Himself, must sacrifice and** be without His Son? 5 Yet every sacrifice demands that **the Father and His Son** be separate and without the other. 6 The memory of God must be denied if any sacrifice is asked of anyone. 7 What witness to the Wholeness of God's Son is seen within a world of separate bodies, however much he witnesses to truth? 8 **The Son of God's Wholeness** is invisible in such a world of **separate ego-bodies**. 9 Nor can **the Son of God's** song of union and of love be heard at all **in the egoic world of form**. 10 Yet is it given **God's Son** to make the **egoic world of form** recede before his song, and sight of **Christ vision** replace the body's eyes.

Note # 4: God has given us the mission of returning our brother's sleeping mind to the truth. God's plan for our return to knowledge calls for the Holy Spirit to reinterpret the false witnesses of our egoic perception into witnesses for the truth of union. By forgiveness, we reawaken our Christ vision and join mentally with our brothers in the shared Oneness that is the Mind of God.

T-26.I.5. Those who would see the witnesses to truth instead of **the witnesses** to illusion merely ask that they might see a purpose in the world that gives **the world of form** sense and makes **the world of perception** meaningful. 2 Without your special function, **which is the returning of your brother to right-mindedness**, has this world no meaning for you. 3 Yet **this world of perception** can become a treasure house as rich and limitless as Heaven itself. 4 No instant passes here **in this world of perception** in which your brother's holiness cannot be seen, to add a limitless supply of **holiness** to every meager scrap and tiny crumb of happiness that you allot yourself.

Note # 5: This world of perception can be used to witness for either truth or the illusion of separation. Our decision-maker must decide which thought system it will follow. If we see our brother as sinless, we grant that same sinlessness to ourselves. When we see him as a body, we join him in the bodily-prison of sin, guilt and fear.

T-26.I.6. You can lose sight of oneness, but **you** can not make sacrifice of **the oneness into a** reality. 2 Nor can you lose **the oneness that** you would sacrifice, nor keep the Holy Spirit from His task of showing you that **the oneness** has not been lost. 3 Hear, then, the song your brother sings to you **of the oneness**, and let the world recede, and take the rest his witness offers on behalf of peace. 4 But judge **your brother** not, for you will hear no song of liberation for yourself, nor see what it is given him to witness to, **which is our sinless oneness**, that you may see **your liberation** and rejoice with **your brother**. 5 Make not **your brother's** holiness a sacrifice to your belief in sin. 6 You sacrifice your innocence with **your brother's innocence**, and die each time you see in **your brother** a sin deserving death.

Note # 6: Although our misperception cannot change truth, our beliefs will affect and control the interpretation of the awareness that we allow ourselves to perceive and experience. Believe that we are sinners and we will project this belief into the world of perception thus, experiencing only a sinful world. It is our beliefs that become the governor of our private dream world of provisional reality. Sacrifice our brother's holiness and we deny our own oneness.

T-26.I.7. Yet every instant can you be reborn, and given life again. 2 **Your brother's** holiness gives life to you, who cannot die because his sinlessness is known to God; and **your brother's sinlessness** can no more be sacrificed by you than can the light in you be blotted out because **your brother** sees not your **light**. 3 You who would make a sacrifice of life, and make your eyes and ears bear witness to the death of God and **the death** of His holy Son, think not that you have power to make of **God and His Creation** what God willed not They be. 4 In Heaven, God's Son is not imprisoned in a body, nor is **God's Son** sacrificed in solitude to sin. 5 And as **God's Son** is in Heaven, so must he be eternally and everywhere. 6 **God's Son** is the same forever. 7 **God's Son is** born again each instant, untouched by time, and far beyond the reach of any sacrifice of life or death. 8 For neither did **God's Son** make **life or death**, and only one, **the gift of life**, was given **God's Son** by One, **the Father**, Who knows His gifts can never suffer sacrifice and loss. p543

Note # 7: God's Will is certain and changeless. We remain as God created us, perfect, whole and complete. We can refuse and temporarily deny our birthright but we can never lose our inheritance.

Life comes from God, for God is life. The truth is that the Sonship abides as an eternal oneness of the Mind of God. God is Cause and we His Effect and when God extended Himself, we became part of that holographic One Self.

T-26.I.8. God's justice rests in gentleness upon His Son, and **God's justice** keeps **His Son** safe from all injustice the world would lay upon **God's Son**. 2 Could it be that you could make **your brother's imagined** sins reality, and sacrifice his Father's Will for him, **which is that God's creation remain perfect and sinless?** 3 Condemn **your brother** not by seeing him within the rotting prison where he sees himself **as a separate body**. 4 It is your special function to ensure the **prison door of the belief in separation** be opened, that **your brother** may come forth to shine on you, and give you back the gift of freedom by receiving **his freedom** of you. 5 What is the Holy Spirit's special function but to release the holy Son of God from the imprisonment he made to keep himself from justice? 6 Could your function be a task apart and separate from **the Holy Spirit's Own function, which is the release the holy Son of God from the Sonship's self-imprisonment in the illusion of separation?**

Note # 8: When either our brother or we align our goals with the Holy Spirit's function, the choice for truth will be made. Ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance and miracles will appear. Only our desire for our identification with the specialness of form keeps our mind imprisoned in the body. Drop the belief that we are an ego-body and we drop our demand for littleness. We are our own self-appointed guardians for either Heaven or hell. Only our decision-maker will decide when it will allow all the Sonship's suffering inmates to go home.

II. Many Forms; One Correction

T-26.II.1. It is not difficult to understand the reasons why you do not ask the Holy Spirit to solve all problems for you. 2 **The Holy Spirit** has not greater difficulty in resolving some **problems** than others. 3 Every problem is the same to **the Holy Spirit**, because each **problem** is solved in just the same respect and through the same approach. 4 The aspects that need solving **for each problem** do not change, whatever form the problem seems to take. 5 A problem can appear in many forms, and **the problem** will do so while the problem lasts. 6 It serves no purpose to attempt to solve **the problem** in a special form. 7 **When we attempted to resolve the problem by dealing with a special form or effect of the problem, it** will recur and then recur again and yet again, until **the problem** has been answered **at the causative level** for all time and will not rise again in any form. 8 And only then **by correcting the problem at the root cause** are you released from **the entire problem**.

Note # 9: Since all problems are errors in perception, we need to resolve the problem at the level of the mind where the error arose. When we ignore the cause of the problem, we are only placing a bandage over the effect of the problem. We mask the result today only to find that the problem manifest tomorrow in a new area of our life. If we believe that we are the body, administering to the neutral communication device we call the body will not correct the source of the problem, which lies in our mind's erroneous belief that it is a body. We often choose to deal with the immediate form that the problem takes. Yet, if we wish to be healed, we need to focus our healing at the true root cause, which is always our attempt to make an illusionary form appear to be our reality. We have attempted to make the false, true. The Truth is that nothing real can be threatened and nothing unreal exists. There can be no separation in a Oneness of "All That Is."

EXAMPLE: If someone is throwing people off a bridge, we can choose to stand down stream, fishing the victims out of the water and saving a few before they drown. But, if we wish to resolve the problem, we need to go to the root cause. We need to stop the person who is throwing the people off the bridge. By correcting the problem at the core causative level, there are no longer any bodies down stream to save.

T-26.II.2. The Holy Spirit offers you release from every problem that you think you have. 2 **All problems** are the same to **the Holy Spirit** because each **problem**, regardless of the form it seems to take, is a demand that someone suffer loss and make a sacrifice that you might gain. 3 And when the situation is worked out so no one loses is the problem gone, because **the original error that loss is possible** was an error in perception that now **that error in thinking's perception** has been corrected. 4 One mistake is not more difficult for **the Holy Spirit** to bring to truth than is another **mistake**. 5 For there *<is>* but one mistake; the whole idea that loss is possible, and could result in gain for anyone. 6 If **the belief that loss is possible** were true, then God would be unfair; sin would be possible, attack be justified and vengeance fair.

Note # 10: If loss were possible, it would mean that God's Will had been overturned. The egoic mind can deny its inheritance but the Son of God's inheritance can never be lost. Our divine birthright is always preserved for us by God's Will and only awaits our reawakening from our game of pretending that we could be something other than what God created us to be.

The world of perception is our “private” provisional reality because it has no ability to change how God created us. Yet, due to our mind’s creative powers, this dream does appear to control our current life’s experiences. The dream has no real power to affect us since we are the dreamer or the dream’s cause. Yet, because within our mind we have chosen to deny our ownership of the dream, we have abandoned our active control over the dream. Now it appears that the dream has power to seemingly control our life’s experience.

Since we are the generator of our own perceptions, these perceptions are unable to change its creator, which is our own mind. Thus, the world we perceive is causeless when it comes to its ability to impact change upon our true reality which was determined by God. ACIM points out that something that has no effect to change the reality of what you are is nothing to you. It produces no measurable results upon you, its source. This making of images that are not your true self is not extension but rather projection. It is imagining. Projection takes place in our imagination, not in the Mind of God. We project in order to believe the egoic stories we have made up about who we are. We believe on both a collective and individual level that we have needs and that fear is real. Projection comes from the mindset of lack and the belief that we are not whole and complete. What you project is what you believe you are. Your earthly world is but a reflection of how you see yourself to be. As long as we perceive ourselves as imperfect and incomplete, we will engage in projection. Only when we know ourselves to be perfect, whole and complete, will we co-create with God.

Creation is the simple act of becoming what you already are by extending yourself outward. Creation is outward bound and is a one-way street. Being only outward bound, the extension of the cause cannot boomerang back upon its creator and change its creator. This one-way street protects the creator and maintains the eternal expansion of the Oneness that is the Mind of God. It preserves the changelessness of eternity. Thus, God who is First Cause has a Son. God’s Son has Its own child, who can have children of their own. In human genealogy, the Son’s Child, would make God a grandfather. But although a child can have children of their own, they cannot birth their parents. Creation or extension is this one-way street. We are becoming what we already are by extending ourselves. There is no change, just expansion.

Projection does not extend what we are. Projection is an attempt to make what we falsely think we are. We hope to find something outside ourselves that will complete us. It is our denial that we are already whole and complete. Thus, projection only takes place in the mind of the perceiver, while extension expands the whole and is shared throughout the Oneness. This sharing of ourselves by extending what we truly are is co-creation with the Father. Creation is the domain of heaven and knowledge. Without reclaiming knowledge, the closest we can come to extension in the world of perception, time and space is the Holy Spirit’s correct perception that is found in the happy dream. True forgiveness is the path that leads the split-minded toward the happy dream. God will take the final step in the Sonship’s return to knowledge. This return to knowledge and Truth is beyond the illusion of perception’s time, space and form.

T-26.II.3. This one mistake **that the belief in loss is possible**, in any form, has one correction. 2 There is no loss **and** to think there is **loss** is a mistake. 3 You have no problems, though you think you have **problems**. 4 And yet you could not think **you had problems** if you saw them vanish one by one, without regard to size, complexity, or place and time, or any attribute which you perceive that makes each **form of the problem** seem

different from the rest p544. 5 Think not the limits you impose on what you see can limit God in any way.

Note # 11: Our egoic illusions have no power to bind or change the Will of God. Only the insane believe an illusion can affect the truth.

T-26.II.4. The miracle of **the true justice of God** can correct all errors. 2 Every problem is an error. 3 **The error caused by egoic thinking** does injustice to the Son of God, and therefore is not true. 4 The Holy Spirit does not evaluate injustices as great or small, or more or less. 5 **Injustices in any form upon the Son of God** have no properties to **the Holy Spirit**. 6 **Injustices in any form upon the Son of God** are mistakes from which the Son of God is suffering, but **suffering needlessly**. 7 And so **the Holy Spirit** takes the thorns and nails away. 8 **The Holy Spirit** does not pause to judge whether the hurt be large or little. 9 **The Holy Spirit** makes but one judgment; that to hurt God's Son must be unfair and therefore is not so **and that this mistake in thinking that God's Son could be hurt and suffer loss must be corrected**.

Note # 12: The Holy Spirit knows that God sees us as perfect, whole and complete and, therefore, only this can be true. When asked, the Holy Spirit reinterprets our misperception in thinking and transforms these errors in our perception into correct alignment with the truth of our sinlessness.

T-26.II.5. You who believe it safe to give but some mistakes to be corrected **by the Holy Spirit** while you keep the other **mistakes** to yourself, remember this: Justice is total. 2 There is no such thing as partial justice. 3 If the Son of God is guilty then is he condemned, and **the guilty** deserves no mercy from the God of justice. 4 But ask not God to punish **God's Son** because *<your egoic little "s"self>* find him guilty and would have him die. 5 God offers you the means to see **your brother's and your own** innocence. 6 Would it be fair to punish **your brother and yourselves** because **your egoic mind** will not look at what is there to see? 7 Each time you keep a problem for **your egoic self** to solve, or judge that it is one **problem** that has no resolution, you have made **the problem you kept** great, and past the hope of healing. 8 You deny **that** the miracle of justice *<can>* be fair.

Note # 13: We cannot refuse to grant forgiveness to some and not to all. Justice is not arbitrary. It must be total. All misperception must be given over to the Holy Spirit for correction. Our egoic mind cannot judge anything correctly. To allow the ego to handle any problem can only result in masking the error. The ego never addresses the root cause of the problem, which is its belief that if someone is to gain, someone else must lose. To the ego, everything is a zero-sum game and you must take if you are to have.

T-26.II.6. If God is just, then can there be no problems that justice cannot solve. 2 But you believe that some injustices are fair and good, and necessary to preserve **your egoic self**. 3 It is these problems that you think are great and cannot be resolved. 4 For there are those **people and yourselves, whom you believe, require to be punished** and you want **them** to suffer loss, and **there is** no one whom you wish to be preserved from sacrifice entirely. 5 Consider once again your special function **of returning your brother to right-mindedness through the tool of forgiveness**. 6 **This one special function** is given you to

see in him his perfect sinlessness. 7 And you will ask no sacrifice of **your brother** because you could not will he suffer loss. 8 The miracle of justice you call forth will rest on you as surely as on **your brother**. 9 Nor will the Holy Spirit be content until **the miracle of God's justice** is received by everyone. 10 For what you give to **the Holy Spirit** is everyone's **miracle of justice**, and by your giving it can **the Holy Spirit** ensure that everyone receives **the gift of God's justice** equally.

Note # 14: When we offer our errors in perception over to the Holy Spirit, our egoic belief that loss is possible in a Oneness of Everything is corrected. Since to give is to receive, we will receive the same judgment that we placed upon our brother and now the same correction. All minds are joined and, therefore, all benefit equally. No one is required to sacrifice so that another can gain.

T-26.II.7. Think, then, how great your own release will be when you are willing to receive correction for all your problems. 2 You will not keep one **problem**, for pain in any form you will not want. 3 And you will see each little hurt resolved before the Holy Spirit's gentle sight. 4 For all of **these problems and hurts** <are> little in **the Holy Spirit** sight, and worth no more than just a tiny sigh before **the hurts** disappear, to be forever undone and unremembered. p545 5 What seemed once to be a special problem, a mistake without a remedy, or an affliction without a cure, has been transformed into a universal blessing. 6 Sacrifice is gone. 7 And in **sacrifice's** place the Love of God can be remembered, and will shine away all memory of sacrifice and loss.

Note # 15: The Holy Spirit replaces our illusionary problems with the truth that we are the unlimited spirit of the One Self. This is the remembrance of God. We reawaken to the fact that we share totally in the Oneness that is the holographic Mind of God. There can be no loss in a Oneness of Everything.

T-26.II.8. God cannot be remembered until justice is loved instead of feared. 2 **God** cannot be unjust to anyone or anything, because **God** knows that everything that is belongs to Him, and will forever be as **God, Himself**, created it. 3 Nothing **God** loves but must be sinless and beyond attack. 4 Your special function opens wide the door beyond which is the memory of **God's** Love kept perfectly intact and undefiled. 5 And all you need to do is but to wish that Heaven be given you instead of hell; **that all illusion be brought before the light of truth** and every bolt and barrier that seems to hold the door **to Heaven** securely barred and locked will merely fall away and disappear. 6 For it is not your Father's Will that you should offer or receive less than **the Oneness of Everything that God** gave, when **God** created you in perfect love.

Note # 16: God's changeless Will preserves, insures and protects our divine birthright. It cannot be lost, but we can in time temporarily pretend we have forgotten where we placed it. It is our free will to decide when we will reawaken from time's temporary insanity. Only when we accept the guiltless of all our brothers and sisters, will we receive our freedom from our belief that God's Love could be limited and opposed. When this decision is made, we will forget time and return to the changeless Oneness that is the eternal Mind of God.

III. The Borderland

T-26.III.1. Complexity is not of God. 2 How could **complexity** be of **God**, when all **God** knows is One? 3 **God** knows of one creation. **God knows** of one reality. **God knows** of one truth and but one Son. 4 Nothing conflicts with oneness. 5 How, then, could there be complexity in **God**? 6 What is there to decide? 7 For it is conflict that makes choice possible. 8 The truth is simple; **the truth** is one, without an opposite. 9 And how could strife enter in **truth's** simple presence, and bring complexity where oneness is? 10 The truth makes no decisions, for there is nothing to decide <*between.*> **There is only truth so what is there to choose between.** 11 And only if there were **something to decide between** could choosing be a necessary step in the advance toward oneness. 12 What is everything leaves room for nothing else. 13 Yet is this magnitude beyond the scope of this curriculum of **ACIM**. 14 Nor is it necessary **that** we dwell on anything that cannot be immediately grasped.

Note # 17: The truth is that there is only the Mind of God, which is the eternal, changeless Oneness of Everything. Since there is only truth, there is nothing to choose between. A decision for the false has no effect on reality and thus, is a non-choice. The Holy Spirit, Who knows the truth, simple tells us to choose again and reminds us that the only option that we have is truth since only truth is real. Free will does not allow us to change truth; it only allows us the choice of when we will decide to accept the truth for ourselves. The oneness of Truth is the answer that has already been determined by the Will of God. As God's Creation, we get to decide the timing of when we will freely choose to accept the Atonement for ourselves.

T-26.III.2. There is a borderland of thought that stands between this world of **perception** and Heaven. 2 **This borderland of thought** is not a place, and when you reach it is apart from time. 3 Here **in this borderland of thought** is the meeting place where thoughts of **truth and illusion** are brought together; where conflicting values meet and all illusions are laid down beside the truth, where **the illusions** are judged to be untrue. 4 This borderland is just beyond the gate of Heaven. 5 Here is every thought made pure and wholly simple. p546 6 Here is sin denied, and everything that <*is*> **real and thus, true** is received instead.

Note # 18: This borderland is the place apart from time where all perceptions are realized to be either misperceptions or correct perceptions that mirror the truth. Perceptions that are fear based fade away before the light of the corrective properties of truth. Only perceptions that are love based and align with truth remain for we now desire only truth. The purpose of the journey of separation was to rediscover what we are. We now have learned that we are the extension of God's love.

T-26.III.3. This **acceptance of our sinlessness and the return to truth** is the journey's end. 2 We have referred to it as the real world. 3 And yet there is a contradiction here **in the real world**, in that the words imply a limited reality, a partial truth, a segment of the universe made true. 4 This is because knowledge makes no attack upon perception. 5 **Both knowledge and perception** are brought together, and only one, **knowledge** continues past the gate where oneness is. 6 Salvation is a borderland where place and time and choice have meaning still, and yet it can be seen that **place, time and choice** are temporary, out of place, and every choice has been already made.

Note # 19: With the acceptance of the Atonement and the realization that we are sinless, we no longer are under the spell or influence of the egoic thought system. The only voice we hear is the Voice for truth, the Holy Spirit. We now remember that the false is not an option and that change is impossible since there is only the one Mind of God. Choice is meaningless since the only option is truth. We understand and know the truth that, “Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists. Herein lies the peace of God.” This is the completion of the journey of rediscovery of what we are. We have returned from the “WHAT AM I STATE?” to the “I AM STATE.” We know that “I AND MY FATHER ARE ONE.”

T-26.III.4. Nothing the Son of God believes can be destroyed. 2 But what is truth to him must be brought to the last comparison that he will ever make, **which is his belief between truth over illusion and knowledge over perception. This comparison of what God’s Son believes is** the last evaluation that will be possible, the final judgment upon this world. 3 It is the judgment of the truth upon illusion, of knowledge on perception: “**Both illusion and perception** has no meaning, and does not exist.” 4 This is not your decision. 5 It is but a simple statement of a simple fact. 6 But in this world of **perception** there are no simple facts, because what is the same and what is different remain unclear. 7 The one essential thing to make a choice at all is this distinction **that both illusion and perception have no meaning, and do not exist.** 8 And herein lies the difference between the worlds. 9 In this one, **the real world**, choice is made impossible. **We realize that the only option we can choose is truth over the nothingness of illusion.** 10 In the real world is choosing simplified.

Note # 20: In this borderland that ACIM calls the real world, we realize that only truth exists and that our will is only to know the truth about ourselves. We freely choose the fact that our will and God’s Will are the same. We have become vigilant only for God, which is the Truth.

T-26.III.5. Salvation stops just short of Heaven, for only perception needs salvation. 2 Heaven was never lost, and so **Heaven** cannot be saved. 3 Yet who can make a choice between the wish for Heaven and the wish for hell unless he recognizes **that Heaven and hell** are not the same? 4 This difference **that Heaven and hell are not the same** is the learning goal this course has set. 5 **ACIM** will not go beyond this aim **to teach that Heaven and hell, the true and the false are not the same.** 6 **ACIM’s** only purpose is to teach what is the same and what is different, leaving room to make the only choice that can be made, **which is the choice for truth.**

Note # 21: In the world of perception, Heaven is represented by the thought system of the Holy Spirit; hell is represented by the thought system of the ego. Our decision-maker must decide which it will follow. ACIM teaches, “Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists.” Once we understand that only truth is real, our decision-maker will freely choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit. This choice for truth returns us to the peace of God, which is our destiny.

T-26.III.6. There is no basis for a choice in this complex and overcomplicated world of **perception.** 2 For no one understands **in the world of egoic perception** what is the same, and **one** seems to choose where no choice really is. **In the world of egoic perception, we**

believe that deciding between which illusion we will follow is a choice. 3 The real world is the area of choice made real, not in the outcome, but in the perception of alternatives for choice. **We realize that an illusion is not a viable choice.** 4 That there is choice is an illusion. **There is only truth.** 5 Yet within this one **correct perception that there is no choice but truth** lies the undoing of every illusion, not excepting this **illusion of the perception of alternatives for choice.** **There is never a choice that could make the false, true.**

Note # 22: The will of God is absolute. Since we are the extension of God, our true will and the Father's Will are the same. The game of separation was the mad idea that there could be something that could change the changeless. There can never be any conflict within a Oneness of Everything. God, which is love, cannot be threatened. God allows all within His dance of creation, which is the holographic Mind of God. God is invulnerable and, therefore, can be totally vulnerable to any thought that arises from the field of consciousness that is God's Mind. If the thought of separation arose in the field of consciousness, God allows it to be played out. God knows that truth is eternal and that the denial of truth can have no effect on the truth. God allows all because God just loves. God does not judge out of fear. To judge an illusion would only give the false the appearance that an illusion could be real. God rests in the truth that there is only the changeless Oneness of everything as He created it.

As God's Child, we wanted not just to know God's love; we wanted the experience of what it would be like to be unlike God so that we could know our true magnificent of this Oneness.. It is difficult to know white without black. God allowed His Creation to play with even the illusion of fear so that His Child could know and be a co-creator of love. By playing with fear; we better understand what love is. We move from knowing God's love to being God's love. God's Will for us is that Her Child be like Herself and that we "BE" only love.

T-26.III.7. Is not this **change in the goal of perception, which is the realization that illusion is not an alternative choice** like your special function, where the separation is undone by change of purpose in what once was specialness, and now is union? 2 All illusions are but one. 3 And in the recognition **that all illusions are one** so lies the ability to give up all attempts to choose between **the various forms of the one illusion** and to make **the forms of the one illusion appear to be different choices.** p547 4 How simple is the choice between two things so clearly unlike **as truth and illusion.** 5 There is no conflict here **between truth and illusion.** 6 No sacrifice is possible in the relinquishment of an illusion **when we recognized the illusion as such is not real.** 7 Where all reality has been withdrawn from what was never true, can it be hard to give **the illusion up,** and choose what *<must>* be true?

Note # 23: When we want only to know truth, the purpose of our perception changes. Now the goal of perception is to reject the false so that we can know the truth. When we are under the influence of the egoic thought system, the goal of perception is to make the false appear to be a viable substitute for the truth. By changing the goal of perception, we reinterpret experiences that once appeared to be witnesses for the separation into witnesses for the truth of the One Self. Our only criterion now is, "What would love have me do?" Forgiveness and love are the only appropriate responses. The illusion of fear holds no

power over love, for love is truth. The false fades before the light of truth and only love remains.

IV. Where Sin Has Left

T-26.IV.1. Forgiveness is this **borderland** world's equivalent of Heaven's justice. 2 **Forgiveness** translates the world of sin into a simple world, where justice can be reflected from beyond the gate behind which total lack of limits lies. 3 Nothing in boundless love could need forgiveness. 4 And what is charity within the **egoic world of perception** gives way to simple justice past the gate that opens into Heaven. 5 No one forgives unless he has believed in sin, and **no one forgives unless he** still believes that he has much to be forgiven. 6 Forgiveness thus becomes the means by which he, **who forgives** learns he has done nothing to forgive. 7 Forgiveness always rests upon the one who offers **forgiveness**, until he sees himself as needing **forgiveness** no more. 8 And thus is he, **who offers forgiveness to another**, returned to his real function of creating, which his forgiveness offers him again.

Note # 24: In Heaven, our purpose is to be co-creators with the Father. In the world of perception our function is forgiveness, our purpose is love and our destiny is the peace of God. First, we need to learn forgiveness in order to begin the process of removing all the blocks that we have placed before love's door. Forgiveness teaches that we are not victims trapped in a body and that no one has the power to harm us. True forgiveness becomes the realization that there is nothing to forgive and that our brothers and we are innocent, guiltless and sinless. This leads toward the return to the truth of our Oneness in the Mind of God. In the borderland, we can compare the truth with perception's illusions and determine there is only one decision that can be made. We can only choose what supports the truth. We realize that a "choice" for illusion is a non-choice, for illusion only represents nothingness.

T-26.IV.2. Forgiveness turns the world of sin into a world of glory, wonderful to see. 2 Each flower shines in light, and every bird sings of the joy of Heaven. 3 There is no sadness and there is no parting here, for everything is totally forgiven **in this transformed world that we once perceived as sinful**. 4 And what has been forgiven must join, for nothing stands between to keep **the forgiven** separate and apart. 5 The sinless must perceive that they are one, for nothing stands between **the sinless** to push the other off. 6 And in the space that sin left vacant do **the forgiven and sinless** join as one, in gladness recognizing what is part of them, **which is their sinless brother**, has not been kept apart and separate.

Note # 25: Fear separates and love binds. By forgiving our brother and ourselves, we no longer perceive the unholy trinity of sin, guilt and fear. Forgiveness removes the barriers that we have placed between ourselves and love. Union, which had never been lost, is once again reclaimed.

T-26.IV.3. The holy place on which you stand **in the borderland** is but the space that sin has left. 2 And here **in the space that sin has left** you see the face of Christ, arising in **sin's** place. 3 Who could behold the face of Christ and not recall His Father as **God, His Father**, really is? 4 Who could fear love, and stand upon the ground **of the borderland** where sin has left a place for Heaven's altar to rise and tower far above the world **of egoic**

perception, and reach beyond the universe to touch the Heart of all creation? 5 What is Heaven but a song of gratitude and love and praise by everything created to the Source of its creation? 6 The holiest of altars is set where once sin was believed to be p548. 7 And here **in the transformation of sin's altar into an altar of truth** does every light of Heaven come, to be rekindled and increased in joy. 8 For here **at this transformed holiest of altars** is what was lost, **the truth that they are the one Christ. This truth is** restored to them **who had once perceived themselves as sinners.** And all their radiance **as the Christ** made whole again.

Note # 26: With the choice for truth, the vision of Christ returns. Christ vision looks through the façade of form to the content that the body attempts to hide. The magnificence of the sinless and guiltless Christ is all that is left to behold. The Sonship is seen as holy. To make holy is to make whole. We realize that we are that One Self.

T-26.IV.4. Forgiveness brings no little miracles to lay before the gate of Heaven. 2 Here the Son of God Himself comes to receive each gift **of forgiveness** that brings **the split minded** nearer to his home. 3 Not one **gift of forgiveness** is lost, and none is cherished more than any other **gift of forgiveness.** 4 Each **gift of forgiveness** reminds **the split minded** of his Father's Love as surely as the rest. 5 And each one teaches **the split minded** that what he feared, **which is love**, he loves the most. 6 What but a miracle could change his mind, so that **the split minded** understands that love cannot be feared? 7 What other miracle is there but this, **the realization that love cannot be feared?** 8 And what else need there be **but the miracle that love cannot be feared** to make the space between you **and what you perceived as separate** disappear?

Note # 27: When we forgive, we grant ourselves forgiveness for the judgments that we have placed on our brother. It is irrelevant whether what we claim our brother did or did not do to "harm" us actually physically took place in space and time or was even "confirmed" by other third party ego-bodies. It is our belief that we are a body and could be hurt that needs correcting. Forgiveness is the healing of the mind, not the body. When we believe that another can harm us, we are denying our divine birthright. We have accepted the belief that our brother and we are separate and limited ego-bodies in competition with other ego-bodies. When we forgive, the belief in separation is corrected at its source, which is our mind. Forgiveness heals minds that perceived themselves as separate. Union and joining of these minds can now be recognized as our "new provisional reality." This correction of erroneous thinking by the Holy Spirit leads to correct perception.

T-26.IV.5. Where sin once was perceived will rise a world that will become an altar to the truth, and you will join the lights of Heaven there, and sing their song of gratitude and praise. 2 And as they, **your brothers that you once perceived as sinners** come to you to be complete, so will you go with them. 3 For no one hears the song of Heaven and remains without a voice that adds its **voice's** power to the song, and makes **the song of Heaven** sweeter still. 4 And each **part of the Sonship** joins the singing at the altar **to truth** that was raised within the tiny spot that sin proclaimed to be its own. 5 And what was tiny then has soared into a magnitude of song in which the universe has joined with but a single voice **of the united Sonship.**

Note # 28: Once we decide to accept the Atonement for ourselves, the decision for truth has been made and God takes the final step in our return to knowledge. In the world of time, salvation is only one decision away. Time is the belief that what is over is still happening in the here and now. God corrected the mad idea of the separation before it ever began. We have postponed the decision for truth and denied that God's Will and our will is one. As long as we continue to deny the truth, we prolong the need for time.

T-26.IV.6. This tiny spot of sin that stands between you and your brother still is holding back the happy opening of Heaven's gate. 2 How little is the hindrance **of granting any sin your forgiveness** that withholds the wealth of Heaven from you. 3 And how great will be the joy in Heaven when you join the mighty chorus to the Love of God!

Note # 29: ACIM encourages us by stating that our journey of reawakening is rapidly coming to a successful completion. We need only to stay on course and follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Not one private thought can be saved for the ego's guidance nor one thought withheld from the Holy Spirit.

V. The Little Hindrance

T-26.V.1. A little hindrance **of sin** can seem large indeed to those who do not understand that miracles are all the same. 2 Yet teaching that **miracles are all the same** is what this course is for. 3 This **teaching that miracles are all the same** is ACIM only purpose, for only that is all there is to learn. 4 And you can learn **that miracles are all the same** in many different ways. 5 All learning is a help or hindrance to the gate of Heaven. 6 Nothing in between **help or hindrance** is possible **when considering the learning process.** 7 There are two teachers only, who point in different ways. **These two teachers are the ego and the Holy Spirit.** 8 And you will go along the way your chosen teacher leads. 9 There are but two directions you can take, while time remains and choice is meaningful. **The two directions are the restoration of truth or the continued denial of truth** 10 For never will another road be made except the way to Heaven. 11 You but choose whether to go toward Heaven **and truth**, or away to nowhere **and the illusion of separation.** p549 12 There is nothing else to choose.

Note # 30: Like everything in ACIM, there is no middle ground. There is only the true and the false. Truth is not a sometimes proposition. You cannot be totally committed sometimes. Sometimes and total are not the same. Total is all or nothing! To choose one illusion over another illusion is not an option. In regard to learning, once a decision is made as to what is to be learned, all learning experiences either help or hinder our progress toward that goal.

T-26.V.2. Nothing is ever lost but time, which in the end, **time, itself**, is meaningless. 2 For **time** is but a little hindrance to eternity, quite meaningless to the real Teacher of the world, **which is the Holy Spirit.** 3 Yet since you do believe in **time**, why should you waste **time** going nowhere, when **time** can be used to reach a goal as high as learning can achieve, **which is the return to truth and Heaven?** 4 Think not the way to Heaven's gate is difficult at all. 5 Nothing you undertake with certain purpose and high resolve and happy confidence, holding your brother's hand and keeping step to Heaven's song, is difficult to do. 6 But **an undertaking** is hard indeed **if you choose** to wander off, alone and miserable, down a road that leads to nothing and that has no purpose.

Note # 31: If we are to start a journey, it is important to know where we are going and that the desired destination really exists. Having a skilled navigator like the Holy Spirit who knows the way is most helpful. The ego tells us we can go it alone; that the ego has the right road map and plan. Each guide's map takes us in an opposite direction. The ego's course is a circle that goes nowhere.

We are always in the perfect place for our return to truth. We waste time when we fail to immediately choose again the moment we realize that our inner peace has been disturbed. Making a wrong choice should not be viewed as a failure but merely a decision that will get us one step closer to the correct path along the road to truth. We need to realize that we will fail our way to the success of Heaven as long as we continue to choose again. Only by failing to decide to choose again is time wasted. The quicker we learn that the egoic thought system offers no hope for happiness, the sooner we will ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance.

T-26.V.3. God gave **the Holy Spirit** as His Teacher to replace the **egoic teacher** you made, not to conflict with **the egoic teacher**. 2 And what **teacher God** would replace, **which is the ego** has **already** been replaced by **God**. **God has given us the Holy Spirit to act as the teacher for truth**. 3 Time lasted but an instant in your mind, with no effect upon eternity. 4 And so is all time past, and everything **that is past is** exactly as it was before the way to nothingness was made. 5 The tiny tick of time in which the first mistake was made, and all of **the illusions** within that one mistake, held also the Correction for that one **first mistake**, and all of **the illusions** that came within the first **mistake**. 6 And in that tiny instant of **God's spontaneous correction of the mistake**, time was gone, for that was all time ever was, a **tiny instant to correct a tiny mistake**. 7 What God gave answer to, **this tiny mistake in time**, is answered by **God** and is gone.

Note # 32: Time, which is the measure of change, has no reality in the Mind of God. The tiny mistake was the belief that change was possible within the changeless mind of God. God has determined that change is impossible and that God willed only to be Love. The correction that is the Atonement process is God's answer. The Atonement states that God's creation, which is the extension of changeless love, must also always remain eternally perfect, whole and complete. God's Child must be sinless and guiltless. Being changeless, there is no change to measure. As soon as the idea of separation was thought, God's plan for its correction had already taken place. Only within the dream of separation is time meaningful. Time is the belief that what is over, which is the belief in change and the separation correction is still happening in the here and now. The correction of error that change was possible occurred instantaneously, yet, we continue to choose to deny this truth. Only, when we decide to no longer value any illusion over truth, will time have served its purpose and will no longer be needed. The ego's focus on time is in the past where the mad idea that we could be other than "Godlike" was first thought. This egoic focus on the past prevents us from being in the now. It is only in the <now> that we can choose a different guidance system.

T-26.V.4. To you who still believe you live in time and know not **that time** is gone, the Holy Spirit still guides you through the infinitely small and senseless maze you still perceive in time, though **time's maze** has long since gone. 2 You think you live in what is past. 3 Each thing you look upon you saw but for an instant, long ago, before **what you**

thought you saw unreality gave way to truth. 4 Not one illusion still remains unanswered in your mind. 5 Uncertainty was brought to certainty so long ago that it is hard indeed to hold **uncertainty** to your heart, as if **uncertainty** were before you still.

Note #33: Once again ACIM points out that the illusion of separation has been resolved long ago but we continue to deny this fact. We suffer from delusions when we believe that there can be choice among the changeless Mind of God. Only within the insane mind of the dreamer's own provisional reality does change appear possible. The egoic split mind has become identified with the dream and is no longer aware that the dream is an illusion. We believe that change is possible within the eternal changelessness of God's Love. The Holy Spirit is the only one that knows both the illusion unreality and how to gently reawaken the dreamer to the truth what we always abide in God's love. When we choose our true Teacher, we will be led in the correct direction.

T-26.V.5. The tiny instant you would keep and make eternal, passed away in Heaven too soon for anything to notice **that the mad idea that God's Will could change had come and passed away.** 2 What disappeared too quickly to affect the simple knowledge of **the sinlessness and perfection** of the Son of God can hardly still be there, for you to choose **the egoic past** to be your teacher **for this mad belief that God's Son is guilty of sin.** 3 Only in the past,—an ancient past, too short to make a world in answer to creation,—did this **egoic world of perception** appear to rise. 4 So very long ago **in the past**, for such a tiny interval of time, that not one note in Heaven's song was missed. 5 Yet in each unforgiving act or thought, in every judgment and in all belief in sin, is that one instant still called back **from the past**, as if **the tiny instant that belief in sin is possible** could be made again in time. p550 6 You keep an ancient memory **in the mad idea that change can occur in the changelessness of God's Love** before your eyes. 7 And he who lives in memories **of the past** alone is unaware of where he is **in the now.**

Note # 34: By maintaining our egoic focus on the past, we constantly reconfirm our decision to make the separation real. The separation is the mad idea that we, an effect, could change the source that birthed us. It is the idea that the changeless, which is God's Love, can be changed by Its effect. Our current focus on the past keeps the present the same as the past. We have failed to change our past belief of what we are. Our belief that we are sinners, not perfect, whole and complete, keeps us in victim consciousness. Current perception is based on what our mind is presently choosing to focus on. Each moment is a new chance to change our focus and be in the <now>. The <now> is the present, without the decision to continuously relive past egoic judgments in the present. We can drop all judgment and choose again. We can only make this choice to change teachers, in the <now>. For most people, the present is not the <now> but rather a replay of the past. In the holy instant, all judgments are suspended so that we can once again follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. In the holy instant, we get in touch with and "be" in the <now>. "Being" and what we call "living" are not the same experience.

T-26.V.6. Forgiveness is the great release from time. 2 **Forgiveness** is the key to learning that the past is over. 3 **When we are with and in forgiveness**, madness speaks no more. 4 **When we are with and in forgiveness** there *<is>* no other teacher and no other way. 5 For what has been undone no longer is. 6 And who can stand upon a distant shore, and dream himself across an ocean, to a place and time that have long since gone by? 7

How real a hindrance can this dream **of time's past** be to where he really is? 8 For this **release from time** is fact, and does not change whatever dreams he has. 9 Yet can he still imagine he is elsewhere, and in another time. 10 In the extreme, he can delude himself that this **dream** is true, and **the dream can** pass from mere imagining into belief and into madness, quite convinced that where he would prefer to be, **which is the dream**, he *<is.>*

Note # 35: Forgiveness is the removal of past judgments and ultimately the removal of time. Remember that time is the mad belief that whatever is over is still happening in the here and now. We can delude ourselves by replaying the past but that can have no real effect upon the truth. Only the madman turns a nightmare into his private reality.

T-26.V.7. Is this **dream** a hindrance to the place whereon he stands? 2 Is any echo from the past that **the dreamer** may hear a fact in what is there to hear where he is now? 3 And how much can **the dreamer's** own illusions about time and place effect a change in where he really is?

Note # 36: Our dream cannot change the where and what that we are. But a dream can effect our personal awareness of where and what we are while we choose to give reality to that dream. We can dream we are in Paris, but we still remain at home and in bed.

T-26.V.8. The unforgiven is a voice that calls from out a past forevermore gone by. 2 And everything that points to **an unforgiven past** as real is but a wish that what is gone could be made real again and seen as here and now, in place of what is *<really>* now and here. 3 Is this **unforgiving voice from the past** a hindrance to the truth the past is gone, and cannot be returned to you? 4 And do you want that fearful instant kept, when Heaven seemed to disappear and God was feared and made a symbol of your hate?

Note # 37: Jesus asks us why would we wish to relive a past nightmare in which we are something other than the perfect extension of God? Why would we want to be anything but perfect, whole and complete?

T-26.V.9. Forget the time of terror that has been so long ago corrected and undone. 2 Can sin withstand the Will of God? 3 Can it be up to you to see the past and put **the past** in the present? 4 You can *<no>* go back. 5 And everything that points the way in the direction of the past but sets you on a mission whose accomplishment can only be unreal. 6 Such is the justice your All-Loving Father has ensured must come to you. **God's justice ensures the unreal cannot affect the truth.** 7 And from your own unfairness to yourself has **God** protected you. 8 You cannot lose your way because there is no way but **God's way, which is God's Will**, and nowhere can you go except to **God**.

Note # 38: God has insured that all roads lead back to the truth that there is only God. God is only love and ultimately we must reawaken to this changeless truth.

T-26.V.10. Would God allow His Son to lose his way along a road long since a memory of time gone by? 2 This course will teach you only what is now. 3 A dreadful instant in a distant past, now perfectly corrected, is of no concern nor value **to what is in the <now>**. 4 Let the dead and gone be peacefully forgotten. 5 Resurrection has come to take **death's** place. 6 And now you are a part of resurrection, not of death. 7 No past

illusions have the power to keep you in a place of death, a vault God's Son entered an instant, to be instantly restored unto his Father's perfect Love. p551 8 And how can **God's Son who dreamt of death** be kept in chains long since removed and gone forever from his mind?

Note # 39: God's correction for the separation occurred the instant that it was thought. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we reawaken from the dream of sin, guilt and fear. We realize that God's Love for His Creation remains changeless.

T-26.V.11. The Son whom God created is as free as God created him. 2 **God's Son, the Christ**, was reborn the instant that he chose to die instead of live. 3 And will you not forgive **God's sleeping Son** now, because he made an error in the past that God remembers not, and is not there? 4 Now you are shifting back and forth between the past and present. 5 Sometimes the past seems real, as if **the past** <were> the present. 6 Voices from the past are heard and then are doubted. 7 You are like to one who still hallucinates, but lacks conviction in what he perceives. 8 This is the borderland between the worlds, the bridge between the past and present. 9 Here **on this borderland's bridge between the past and the present**, the shadow of the past remains, but still a present light is dimly recognized. 10 Once a **present light** is seen, this light can never be forgotten. 11 **The light from the present** must draw you from the past into the present, where you really are.

Note # 40: In this borderland, illusion is compared against the truth and fades into the nothingness from which illusion arose. Past judgments are recognized as misperceptions that are corrected. This borderland is the place where both perception and knowledge meet. Perception gives way to knowledge's truth and the past no longer holds the present hostage.

T-26.V.12. The shadow voices **of the unforgiven** do not change the laws of time nor of eternity. 2 **The shadow voices of the unforgiven** come from what is past and gone, and hinder not the true existence of the here and now. 3 The real world is the second part of the hallucination time and death are real, and **that time and death** have existence that can be perceived. 4 This terrible illusion was denied in but the time it took for God to give His Answer, **which is the Atonement**, to illusion for all time and every circumstance. 5 And then **this terrible illusion of time and death** was no more to be experienced as there.

Note # 41: The separation was over long ago. Only by our personal refusal to accept the Atonement principle for ourselves, do we keep this past illusion of separation alive and in our field of awareness. The Atonement principle is the changeless nature of God's Will. It is God's Will that His Creation remain innocent, sinless and guiltless. We remain and always will be as God created us, perfect, whole and complete.

T-26.V.13. Each day, and every minute in each day, and every instant that each minute holds, you but relive the single instant **of the mad idea** when the time of terror took the place of love. 2 And so you die each day to live again, until you cross the gap between the past and present, which is not a gap at all. 3 Such is each life; a seeming interval from birth to death and on to life again, a repetition of an instant gone by long ago that cannot be relived. 4 And all of time is but the mad belief that what is over is still here and now.

Note # 42: The end of time is one decision away. Until we accept the Atonement for ourselves, we constantly choose to relive the mad idea that there is something outside God's Love. Every moment is an opportunity to forget the past and be in the now. God's Love is in the eternal changeless <now>. We are that One Self that is the Love of God.

T-26.V.14. Forgive the past and let **the past** go, for **the past** <is> gone. 2 You stand no longer on the ground that lies between the worlds **of the past and present**. 3 You have gone on, and reached the world that lies at Heaven's gate, **the borderland**. 4 There is no hindrance to the Will of God, nor any need that you repeat again a journey that was over long ago. 5 Look gently on your brother, and behold the world in which perception of your hate has been transformed into a world of love. p553

Note # 43: Heaven is a decision away. Accept the Atonement and we accept the truth that we could never be outside God's love. We stop deluding ourselves that the false could change the changelessness of truth. We return home to the Oneness of Everything, which is the Mind of God. We reclaim our divine birthright as God's One Self

VI. The Appointed Friend

T-26.VI.1. Anything in this world **of perception and time** that you believe is good and valuable and worth striving for can hurt you, and will do so. 2 Not because **anything in the world of perception and time** has the power to hurt, but just because you have denied **the world of time** is but an illusion, and made **the world of perception** real. 3 And **anything in the world of perception and time that you place value upon** is real to you. 4 **Anything you egoically value and perceive as being real** is not nothing. 5 And through **the value that you have place on the world of time's** perceived reality has entered all the world of sick illusions. 6 All belief in sin, in power of attack, in hurt and harm, in sacrifice and death, has come to you. 7 For no one can make one illusion real, and still escape the rest. 8 For who can choose to keep **only the illusions** that he prefers, and find the safety that the truth alone can give? 9 Who can believe illusions are the same, and still maintain that even one **illusion** is best?

Note # 44: There is nothing in this world of illusion that can hold any value to a Oneness of Everything. If we value anything in this world, we are confirming our belief in our own lack. We value what we perceive that we lack. All illusions, no matter the specific form that they may take, are the same. Any illusion is an attempt to make the false appear to be real. Keep one illusion and you deny that you are the Oneness. You claim you are not perfect, whole and complete. We cannot choose when and what will be truth.

T-26.VI.2. Lead not your little life in solitude, with one illusion **that you are an egoic little "s" self** as your only friend. 2 This is no friendship worthy of God's Son, nor one with which he could remain content. 3 Yet God has given **His sleeping Son** a better Friend, **the Holy Spirit**, in Whom all power in earth and Heaven rests. 4 The one illusion that you think is friend, **the ego**, obscures **the Holy Spirit's** grace and majesty from you, and keeps **the Holy Spirit's** friendship and forgiveness from your welcoming embrace. 5 Without **the Holy Spirit** you are friendless. 6 Seek not another friend to take **the Holy Spirit's** place. 7 There <is> no other friend. 8 What God appointed has no substitute, for what illusion can replace the truth?

Note # 45: At the time of the separation, God placed the Holy Spirit within our Christ consciousness, which insures our safe journey home. The ego is not our friend and is the embodiment of the belief that the separation was real. The Holy Spirit is the keeper of the Truth.

T-26.VI.3. Who dwells with shadows is alone indeed, and loneliness is not the Will of God. 2 Would you allow one shadow to usurp the throne that God appointed for your Friend, **the Holy Spirit**, if you but realized **the emptiness of the Holy Spirit's throne that has left your throne empty and unoccupied?** 3 Make no illusion friend, for if you do, **an illusion** can but take the place of **the Holy Spirit** Whom God has called your Friend. 4 And it is **the Holy Spirit** Who is your only Friend in truth. 5 **The Holy Spirit** brings you gifts that are not of this world, and only **the Holy Spirit** to Whom **these gifts that are not of this world** have been given can make sure that you receive **the miracle that are these gifts.** 6 **The Holy Spirit** will place **these gifts from God** on your throne, when you make room for **the Holy Spirit** on His **throne of truth.**

Note # 46: We need to offer our daily activities to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit knows the “big picture” in God’s plan for the salvation of the split-minded Sonship. By offering our day to the Holy Spirit, our perception can be correctly interpreted to bear witness for the truth of the One Self. We cannot value one egoic illusion without denying the truth of the Oneness of the Mind of God. Truth is whole. Truth cannot be partial. Truth just is.

VII. The Laws of Healing

T-26.VII.1. This is a course in miracles. 2 As such, the laws of healing must be understood before the purpose of the course, **which is the miracle**, can be accomplished. 3 Let us review the principles **of the laws of healing** that we have covered, and arrange **the principles** in a way that summarizes all that must occur for healing to be possible. p553 4 For when **healing** once is possible **healing** must occur.

Note # 47: ACIM states that when all the conditions needed for healing the mind occur, the mind will be healed. Nothing can prevent God’s Will from returning the Sonship to right-mindedness.

T-26.VII.2. All sickness comes from separation. 2 When the separation is denied, **all sickness** goes. 3 For **all sickness** is gone as soon as the idea that brought **all sickness, which is the idea that the separation could be real** has been healed, and been replaced by sanity. 4 **In egoic thinking**, sickness and sin are seen as consequence and cause, in a relationship kept hidden from awareness **so that the true cause, the belief in separation** may be carefully preserved from reason's light.

Note # 48: Sin has been defined as any belief that God’s Son could be limited. This belief that sin has occurred arose out of the belief of separation. As long as we believe that we are separate, sickness will occur because the root cause of sickness is not sin, but the separation. We have mistaken an effect, sin and attempted to claim that sin is the cause of sickness. Both sin and sickness are the effect and consequences of one cause, which is the illusion that the separation was real. By focusing on sin as the imaged cause of sickness, we merely hide one illusion with another illusion. We fail to attempt to heal the problem at the

source, instead, opting only to administer to the affect. This only results in bandaging up the problem until it manifests somewhere else.

T-26.VII.3. Guilt asks for punishment, and **guilt's** request is granted. 2 **Guilt's request is granted** not in truth, but in the world of shadows and illusions built on sin. 3 The Son of God perceived what he would see, **which is an illusionary world based on sin**, because perception is a wish fulfilled. 4 Perception changes, made to take the place of changeless knowledge. 5 Yet is truth unchanged. 6 **Truth** cannot be perceived, but only known. 7 What is perceived takes many forms, but none **of these perceived forms** has meaning. 8 Brought to truth, **the perceived form's** senselessness is quite apparent. 9 Kept apart from truth, **perception's illusions** seems to have a meaning and be real.

Note # 49: Because we believe in limitation and thus, sin, we demand that sinners be punished. Since sin is not possible in a Oneness, we make a dream world in which our desire's can be fulfilled. Perception, which has replaced knowledge, allows for fantasy to be substituted for truth. As long as we choose to deny the truth, we can maintain our illusionary world based of the misperception that sin is real.

T-26.VII.4. Perception's laws are opposite to truth, and what is true of knowledge is not true of anything that is apart from **knowledge**. 2 Yet has God given answer to the world of sickness, which applies to all forms **in the perceived world of sickness**. 3 God's answer, **the Atonement**, is eternal, though **the Atonement** works in time, where **the Atonement** is needed. 4 Yet because **the Atonement, which is God's answer to the illusion of sickness**, is of God, the laws of time do not affect **the answer's** workings. 5 **The answer** is in this world, but not a part of **this world**. 6 For **the answer** is real, and dwells where all reality must be. 7 Ideas leave not their source, and their effects but seem to be apart from **their source**. 8 Ideas are of the mind. 9 What is projected out **of the mind**, and seems to be external to the mind, is not outside at all, but **what is projected out of the mind is** an effect of what is **inside the mind**, and **this effect** has not left its source, **which is the mind of the perceiver**.

Note # 50: Perception's laws do not apply to the Atonement since the Atonement is God's principle of correction for the illusion of separation. The world of sin is the result of the illusion of separation. By correcting the illusion of separation at its source, which is at the level of mind, the Atonement automatically dissolves any affects that are the result of the first error. The Holy Spirit was given to the split-minded Sonship to insure that the Atonement process would be fulfilled. The Atonement process is of God and remains of God yet, it operates within the illusion because that is where we perceive ourselves to be. The laws of God supercede any laws that seem to operate in perception's world of illusion. The laws of chaos and perception have no power over the Atonement, which is of the Mind of God.

T-26.VII.5. God's answer lies where the belief in sin must be, for only **there within the place where the belief in sin is** can **sin's** effects be utterly undone and without cause. 2 Perception's laws must be reversed, because **perception's laws** *<are>* reversals of the laws of truth. 3 The laws of truth forever will be true, and cannot be reversed; yet **laws of truth** can be seen as upside down. 4 And this **upside down understand of the laws of truth** must be corrected where the illusion of reversal lies.

Note # 51: The problem can only be permanently corrected at its source. Anything else merely temporarily hides the problem.

T-26.VII.6. It is impossible that one illusion be less amenable to truth than are the rest **of all illusions amenable to truth.** 2 But it is possible that some **illusions** are given greater value, and **that some illusions are** less willingly offered to truth for healing and for help. 3 No illusion has any truth in it. 4 Yet it appears some **illusions** are more true than other **illusions**, although this clearly makes no sense at all. 5 All that **an egoic** hierarchy of illusions can show is preference, not reality. 6 What relevance has preference to the truth? 7 Illusions are illusions and are false. p554 8 Your preference gives **illusions** no reality. 9 Not one **illusion** is true in any way, and all **illusions** must yield with equal ease to what God gave as answer to all **illusions, which is the Atonement Principle.** 10 God's Will is One. 11 And any wish that seems to go against **God's** Will has no foundation in the truth.

Note # 52: We choose to believe that one illusion is harder to correct than another. We may believe that we can cure a cold but not cancer. There is no order of difficulty in miracles. The Atonement works equally on all illusions. The Atonement rests on the simple truth that God's Son is sinless and guiltless. It is not the inability of the miracle to work its "magic" on the problem but rather our unwillingness to give the problem over to the Holy Spirit for correction. We get to keep the problem because we want the problem. There is some valuable payback that we believe is derived from the problem, itself. Argue for your limitations, which is your claim to specialness, and you get to keep your limitation.

T-26.VII.7. Sin is not error, for **sin** goes beyond correction to impossibility. 2 Yet the belief that **sin** is real has made some errors seem forever past the hope of healing, and **would make some errors that we believe cannot be healed** the lasting grounds for hell. 3 If this **belief that sin is not error and, therefore, not correctable** were so, would Heaven be opposed by its own opposite, **hell, and hell would be** as real as **Heaven.** 4 Then would God's Will be split in two, and all creation be subjected to the laws of two opposing powers **of Heaven and hell**, until God becomes impatient, splits the world apart, and relegates attack unto Himself. 5 Thus has **God** lost His Mind, proclaiming sin has taken **God's** reality from Him and brought **God's** Love at last to vengeance's heels. 6 For such an insane picture an insane defense can be expected, but **the insane defense** cannot establish that the insane picture must be true.

Note # 53: If we were sinful, this would also make God's Will powerless against our egoic will. The changeless First Cause, the Mind of God, would be forced to change by Its own Effect, the Sonship. An effect has no power over its cause. Only the cause can change the effect, not the other way around. The effect can deny the truth, but the effect's denial of its source does not change its cause.

T-26.VII.8. Nothing gives meaning where no meaning is. 2 And truth needs no defense to make **the truth** true. 3 Illusions have no witnesses and no effects. 4 Who looks on **the illusions** is but deceived. 5 Forgiveness is the only function here **in the world of perception**, and **forgiveness** serves to bring the joy this world denies to every aspect of God's Son where sin was thought to rule. 6 Perhaps you do not see the role forgiveness plays in ending death and all beliefs that rise from mists of guilt. 7 Sins are beliefs that you

impose between your brother and yourself. 8 **The beliefs in sin** limit you to time and place, and give a little space to you, another little space to him. 9 This separating off **from the oneness** is symbolized, in your perception, by a body which is clearly separate and a thing apart **from your brother**. 10 Yet what this symbol **of the body** represents is but your wish to *<be>* apart and separate.

Note # 54: The goal of separation is the desire to be special. Being a shared Oneness of everything, we could not be special when there is only the One Self. Specialness can only be obtained by limiting the unlimited. In the world of form, we can obtain the illusion of specialness since form cannot be shared. By identifying ourselves as a body-form, we perceive that the illusion of separation is real. We now perceive ourselves to be an ego-body, not the unlimited spiritual essences of the Mind of God.

T-26.VII.9. Forgiveness takes away **the bodily illusion of separation that** stands between your brother and yourself. 2 **Forgiveness** is the wish that you be joined with **your brother**, and not apart. 3 We call it "wish" because **forgiveness** still conceives of other choices, and **forgiveness** has not yet reached beyond the world of choice entirely. 4 Yet is this wish **for forgiveness** in line with Heaven's state, and not in opposition to God's Will. 5 Although **forgiveness** falls far short of giving you your full inheritance, **forgiveness** does remove the obstacles that you have placed between the Heaven where you are and recognition of where and what you are. 6 Facts are unchanged. 7 Yet facts can be denied and thus unknown **to the perceiver**, though **these facts** were known before they were denied **by the perceiver**.

Note # 55: Forgiveness allows us to look past the illusion of the body-form and see the Christ within. By asking for the Holy Spirit's guidance, our Christ vision is reawakened. Our Christ consciousness has never lost the truth of what it is. The Voice for Christ just could not be heard over the roar of the voice for the ego.

T-26.VII.10. Salvation, perfect and complete, asks but a little wish that what is true be true. **Salvation asks but** a little willingness to overlook what is not there, **the body-form**. **Salvation asks** a little sigh that speaks for Heaven as a preference to this world that death and desolation seem to rule. p555 2 In joyous answer **to this preference for Heaven** will creation rise within you, to replace the world **your egoic perception sees** with Heaven, wholly perfect and complete. 3 What is forgiveness but a willingness that truth be true? 4 What can remain unhealed and broken from a unity which holds all things within itself? 5 There is no sin **in a unity, which holds all things within itself**. 6 And every miracle is possible the instant that the Son of God perceives his wishes and the Will of God are one.

Note # 56: What we desire will be what we perceive. When we stop denying the truth of the Oneness, we will see beyond the body-form and behold the face of Christ in all we perceive. We will freely choose to allow our will to be only God's Will.

T-26.VII.11. What is the Will of God? 2 **God** wills His Son have everything. 3 And this **God** guaranteed when **God** created **His Son** *<as>* everything. 4 It is impossible that anything be lost, if what you *<have>* is what you *<are >*, **which is the Oneness of Everything**. 5 **God's guarantee that you are everything and that nothing God created can be lost** is the miracle by which creation became your function, sharing **creation** with

God. 6 **This function of creation** is not understood apart from **God**, and therefore has no meaning in this world **that claims to be separate from God**. 7 Here, **in the world of perception**, does the Son of God ask not too much, but far too little. 8 **In the world of perception, the Son of God** would sacrifice his own identity with everything, to find a little treasure of his own, **which he would call specialness**. 9 And this **sacrifice of his own identity as a Oneness with Everything, the split-minded Son of God** cannot do without a sense of isolation, loss and loneliness. 10 This **sense of isolation, loss and loneliness** is the treasure **the split-minded Son of God** has sought to find. 11 And **the split-minded Son of God** could only be afraid of **this egoic treasure, which has brought him a sense of isolation, loss and loneliness**. 12 Is fear a treasure? 13 Can uncertainty be what you want? 14 Or is **this sacrificing of your own true identity as the One Self your attempt to find the little treasure that you called specialness really a mistake about your will, and what you really are, which is the One Self?**

Note # 57: After you have been a Oneness of Everything, how can you be content with less? Only by reclaiming our divine birthright can we be happy. This is the peace of God.

T-26.VII.12. Let us consider what the error is, so **this error** can be corrected, not protected. **This error is your belief that it is possible to lose your guarantee of being the One Self that God's Will created you to be** 2 Sin is belief attack can be projected outside the mind where the belief **in sin originally** arose, **which is the mind**. 3 Here is the firm **egoic** conviction that ideas can leave their source **and be made real and meaningful**. 4 And from this error **that ideas can leave the mind from which the idea arose and become real** does the world of sin and sacrifice arise. 5 This world **of sin and sacrifice** is an attempt to prove your innocence, while cherishing attack. 6 **This attempt's failure to prove your innocence** lies in **the fact** that you still feel guilty, though without understanding why **you feel guilty**. 7 **In this failed world that cherishes attack**, effects are seen as separate from their source, and **effects** seem to be beyond you to control or **your ability** to prevent **the effect**. 8 What is thus kept apart can never join.

Note # 58: The world of perception is a world created to prove the separation. Form cannot join and it is this false identification with the egoic body-form that keeps our minds from realizing that they are already joined. They, who perceive themselves as guilty, hope to prove their innocence by blaming and projecting their guilt upon another. Since ideas never leave their source, they are forced to keep their guilt. Yet, due now to their own mental powers of projection, they can also claim that they are innocent victims and are helpless to reactivate their decision-maker so that they may choose again. They, who perceive themselves as guilty, claim they are the effect of outside forces beyond their control and are powerless to affect any change.

T-26.VII.13. Cause and effect are one, not separate. 2 God wills you learn what always has been true: that **God** created you as part of Him, and this must still be true because ideas leave not their source. 3 Such is creation's law; that each idea the mind conceives but adds to **the mind's own** abundance. **The idea** never takes away **from the mind that conceived of the idea**. 4 This is as true of what is idly wished as what is truly willed, because the mind can wish to be deceived, but cannot make **itself** be what **the mind** is not. 5 And to believe ideas can leave their source is to invite illusions to be true, without success. 6 For never will success be possible in trying to deceive the Son of God. p556

Note # 59: Wishes that would conflict with truth hold no power to change the truth. When we wish to be special, we claim to be different from God's Will. Within the dream of separation, we can deny our birthright, but we cannot change it. The Holy Spirit preserves our inheritance, which is returned to us, the moment we decide to want to reawaken to the truth.

T-26.VII.14. The miracle is possible when cause and consequence are brought together, not **when cause and consequence are** kept separate. 2 The healing of effect without **healing** the cause can merely shift effects to other forms. 3 And this **shifting of the effect to other forms** is not release. 4 God's Son could never be content with less than full salvation and escape from guilt. 5 For otherwise **without full escape from guilt** he still demands that he must make some sacrifice, and thus denies that everything is his, **and that he is** unlimited by loss of any kind. 6 A tiny sacrifice is just the same in **sacrifice's** effects as is the whole idea of sacrifice. 7 If loss in any form is possible, then is God's Son made incomplete and not himself. 8 Nor **if loss in any form is possible** will **God's Son** know himself, nor recognize his will. 9 **God's Son** has forsworn his Father and himself, and made **God's Son and God** both his enemies in hate.

Note # 60: In the egoic world, time is needed because we believe there must be a gap between cause and effect. In reality, cause and effect are instantaneously connected. There is no gap for there is only the <now>. Because we refuse to allow cause and effect to be brought together, we need time to measure what we perceive to be the resulting change, which we call the effect. This is why ACIM states that time is the mad belief that what is over is still happening in the here and now. The effect of the thought is instantaneous. Stop the thought and the effect stops immediately. This is why ACIM advises us not to attempt to change the world, but rather to change how we choose to view our world. By changing our thought, the world must automatically align with the new thinking. Each moment is a choice to recreate whatever we wish to perceive. We cannot heal the belief in separation unless we choose to allow the Holy Spirit to heal the source of the problem that is found in the mind. Until we grant total forgiveness to all and value no illusion over truth, we will be caught within time refusing to accept the Atonement for ourselves. The Atonement was God's answer to the separation. This answer was given long ago but since we refuse to accept God's answer, we remain trapped in time.

T-26.VII.15. Illusions serve the purpose **the illusions** were made to serve. 2 And from **illusions'** purpose **illusions** derive whatever meaning the **illusions** seem to have. 3 God gave to all illusions that were made another purpose that would justify a miracle whatever form **the illusions** took. 4 In every miracle all healing lies, for God gave answer to all **illusions** as one. 5 And what is one to **God** must be the same. 6 If you believe what is the same is different you but deceive yourself. 7 What God calls One will be forever One, not separate. 8 **God's Kingdom** is united; thus **God's Kingdom** was created, and thus will **God's Kingdom** ever be **united**.

Note # 61: God only knows truth. Since an illusion is the belief that something that does not exist is real, all illusions fall into one category, which is the false. No illusion is more false than another. They are all the same. Because of this fact, the healing method for all forms of illusion is the same. Bring the illusion before the light of truth and the illusion

must fade away into the nothingness from which it was conceived. The Atonement is God's answer that provides the correction of the illusion of separation. The miracle corrects each apparent form that the illusion might take. God's Will is that there is and always will be the eternal One Self.

T-26.VII.16. The miracle but calls your ancient Name, which you will recognize because the truth is in your memory. 2 And to this Name your brother calls for his release and **your release**. 3 Heaven is shining on the Son of God. 4 Deny **your brother** not, that you may be released. 5 Each instant is the Son of God reborn until he chooses not to die again. 6 In every wish to hurt, **the split-minded** chooses death instead of what his Father wills for him. 7 Yet every instant offers life to **the split-minded** because his Father wills that he should live.

Note # 62: Every moment, we are asked to choose again until we desire only truth. This decision for separation is constantly being made whenever we perceive anything outside the Vision of Christ. The Vision of Christ looks upon everything and sees the truth that there is just the One Self that we share. Christ hears only the Voice for God and calls God's Name, which is our Name.

T-26.VII.17. In crucifixion is redemption laid, for healing is not needed where there is no pain or suffering. **The crucifixion demonstrated that we are not a body but rather unlimited mind or spirit.** 2 Forgiveness is the answer to attack of any kind. 3 **By the use of the tool of forgiveness**, so is attack deprived of **attack's** effects, and hate is answered in the name of love. 4 To you to whom **your function** has been given to save the Son of God from crucifixion and from hell and death, all glory be forever. 5 For you have power to save the Son of God because his Father willed that **you save His Son and that** it be so. 6 And in your hands does all salvation lie, to be both offered and received as one.

Note # 63: Grant our brother his sinlessness and we grant our own. God has willed that the split-minded be made whole through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The tool of forgiveness has been given to save our brother. We are inseparably linked within the Mind of God. I and My Father are One also means that my brother and I are One. There is just the One Self. God just Is!

Jesus' crucifixion not only demonstrated that we are not a body, it also illustrated by an extreme example that forgiveness is the proper response to any form of perceived attack. Forgiveness is always proper since mind is invulnerable. It demonstrated that anger is never justified since nothing outside our own mind has any power over it. An illusion cannot harm you unless you choose to make it real within your mind. Illusions are powerless to affect our true reality. We remain as we were created. Nothing outside ourselves has the power to disturb the peace of God which is our divine destiny.

T-26.VII.18. To use the power God has given you as **God** would have used **this power** is natural. 2 It is not arrogant to be as **God** created you, nor to make use of what **God** gave to answer all His Son's mistakes and set him free. 3 But it is arrogant to lay aside the power that **God** gave, and choose a little senseless wish instead of what **God** wills. p557 4 The gift of God to you is limitless. 5 There is no circumstance **God's gift** cannot answer, and no problem which is not resolved within **God's gift of** gracious light.

Note # 64: God's gift to you is everything that God wills for you. God wills only that you be happy. In the context of the separation, the Atonement principle is the embodiment of God's Will. It states that God's Son is, and always will be, as God created the Christ, perfect, whole and complete. God's judgment is that we are innocent, sinless and guiltless. This judgment of God cannot be changed for it is the eternal truth of what we are. Since thoughts never leave their source, by forgiving our brother, we forgive ourselves. The miracle of forgiveness becomes the interlocking chain of consciousness that becomes the acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves as part of the united holographic Mind of God.

T-26.VII.19. Abide in peace, where God would have you be. 2 And be the means whereby your brother finds the peace in which your wishes are fulfilled. 3 Let us unite in bringing blessing to the world of sin and death. 4 For what can save each one of us, **the peace of God**, can save us all. 5 There is no difference among the Sons of God. 6 The unity that specialness denies, **this same unity** will save them all, for what is one can have no specialness. 7 And everything belongs to each of them **for they are part of the united Sonship**. 8 No wishes lie between a brother and his own **wish**. 9 To get from one **brother** is to deprive all **the Sonship**. 10 And yet to bless but one **brother** gives blessing to all **brothers** as one.

Note # 65: What we do onto the least of our brethren, we do onto all. Minds are joined. The law of creation states that there can be no loss. The law of chaos states that gain must come at someone else's loss. The laws of chaos cannot override God's Will.

T-26.VII.20. Your ancient Name belongs to everyone, as **his or her ancient Name belongs** to you. 2 Call on your brother's name and God will answer, for on **God** you call. 3 Could **God** refuse to answer **this call** when **God** has already answered all who call on Him? 4 A miracle can make no change at all. 5 But **a miracle** can make what always has been true be recognized by those who know **truth** not; and by this little gift of truth but let **the truth** to be itself, the Son of God allowed to be himself, and all creation freed to call upon the Name of God as one.

Note # 66: The miracle changes nothing. Instead the miracle removes all illusionary obstacles that hide the light of truth from our awareness. Truth is now recognized by the split-minded. We are the extension of the Mind of God. Since the creative process is the extension of the Mind of God, it allows no separation. We must share in that same Oneness. There is just the expansion of the One Self. I and My Father are One and You are that One. Herein lies the peace of God.

VIII. The Immediacy of Salvation

T-26.VIII.1. The one remaining problem that you have is that you see an interval between the time when you forgive, and **the time when you** will receive the benefits of trusting in your brother. 2 This **perceived interval between when you forgive and when you receive the benefits that you gain by trusting in your brother** but reflects the little you would keep between you and your brother, that you and **your brother** might be a little separate. 3 For time and space are one illusion, **in which time and space each take on different forms yet remain the same illusion**. 4 If **the illusion of this gap between when you forgive and when you receive the benefits that you gain by trusting in your brother** has been projected beyond your mind you think of **the illusionary interval** as

time. 5 The nearer **this gap between when you forgive and when you receive the benefits that you gain by trusting in your brother** is brought to where it is, the more you think of **the illusionary interval** in terms of space.

Note #67: In order to maintain the illusion of separation between the forgiven and the forgiver, our ego insists that there is a gap between the time of the forgiving thought and the effect of that thought. If the effect were instantaneous, this would verify that we are one with the forgiven and that there is no separation between our minds since they are the same shared Mind of God. ACIM states that the longer we perceive the interval between the forgiving thought and its returning beneficial effect, the longer we will perceive this gap between cause and effect as time. If the perceived gap is small, we tend to see this same gap between cause and effect as space. Both time and space are different forms of the same illusion of separation. The illusion is the belief that cause and effect are not instantaneous. In actuality, both cause and effect are simultaneous. In reality, there is no gap between cause and effect since in eternity there is only the <now>. Time appears to measure length between changes. Space appears to measure the length that we believe ourselves to be separate from one another.

T-26.VIII.2. There is a distance you would keep apart from your brother, and this space you perceive as time because you still believe you are external to **your brother**. 2 This **belief that you are external to your brother** makes trust impossible. 3 And you cannot believe that trust would settle every problem now **because you believe you are external and separate from your brother**. 4 Thus do you think it safer to remain a little careful and a little watchful of interests perceived as separate. 5 From this perception **that you and your brother's interest's are separate**, you cannot conceive of gaining what forgiveness offers **in the instantaneous** <now.> 6 The interval you think lies in between the giving and receiving of the gift seems to be one in which you sacrifice and suffer loss. p558 7 You see eventual salvation, not immediate results.

Note # 68: When we offer forgiveness to our brother, we believe that there will be an interval between the granting of this forgiveness and the future payback that we expect. This demonstrates that we are still under the influence of some relics of egoic thinking. Because we still see ourselves as separate from our brother, we do not realize that we are of One Mind. We see the benefits of our granting our brother forgiveness as something that we will receive in the future, not in the present moment. During this time interval between when we offered forgiveness and when we receive our reward for this forgiveness, we feel we are making a sacrifice. We do not believe our reward is instantaneously granted to us since we do not fully believe that to give is to receive.

T-26.VIII.3. Salvation <is> immediate. 2 Unless you so perceive **salvation as immediate**, you will be afraid of **the interval you think lies in between the giving and receiving of the gift of forgiveness and salvation**, believing that the risk of loss is great between the time **forgiveness'** purpose is made yours and **forgiveness** effects will come to you. 3 In this **form's belief that an interval exists between giving and receiving**, is the error of **separation** still obscured that is the source of fear. **We fear that by joining, we will lose our specialness that our belief in separation brings**. 4 Salvation <would> wipe out the space you see between you **and your brother** still, and let you instantly become as one. 5 And it is here **in your joining as one** you fear the loss of **separation** would lie. 6 Do

not project this fear **of joining as one with your brother** to time, for time is not the enemy that you perceive. 7 Time is as neutral as the body is, except in terms of what you see **time** for. 8 If you would keep a little space between you and your brother still, you then would want a little time in which forgiveness is withheld a little while. 9 And this **little space of separation you keep between you and your brother** but makes the interval between the time in which forgiveness is withheld from you and given **to you** seem dangerous, with terror justified.

Note # 69: During this perceived gap between giving and receiving, we worry whether the benefits the Holy Spirit offered, our own forgiveness and salvation, will ever arrive. We question whether we made a “good trade.” Maybe we granted our brother his forgiveness and we won’t get our own in return. Until the benefit is recognized as already having been received, we remain fearful. We believe that we have sacrificed something and fear we will never get our just reward.

T-26.VIII.4. Yet space between you and your brother is apparent only in the present, <now,> and cannot be perceived in future time. 2 No more can **the space between you and your brother** be overlooked except within the present. 3 Future loss is not your fear. 4 But present joining is your dread. 5 Who can feel desolation except now? 6 A future cause as yet has no effects **on the present**. 7 And therefore must it be that if you fear **in the present**, there is a present cause. 8 And it is <this> **present cause, your fear of joining in the present <now>**, that needs correction, not a future state.

Note # 70: We wish to maintain a gap between giving and receiving because this gap confirms that we are still separate body forms and not joined as one mind. We like the idea of our specialness that arises out of our belief in egoic separation.

T-26.VIII.5. The plans you make for safety all are laid within the future, where you cannot plan. 2 No purpose has been given **to the future** as yet, and what will happen **in the future** has as yet no cause. 3 Who can predict effects without a cause? 4 And who could fear effects unless he thought **the effect** had been caused, and judged **the effect** disastrous <now?> 5 Belief in sin arouses fear, and like **belief in sin’s** cause, **fear** is looking forward, looking back, but overlooking what is here and now. 6 Yet only **in the** here and now must **the cause of the belief in sin** be, if **the belief in sin’s** effects already have been judged as fearful. 7 And in overlooking this **fact that the cause of fear must be in the present**, is **the belief in sin** protected and kept separate from healing. 8 For a miracle is <now.> 9 **The miracle** stands already here, in present grace, within the only interval of time that sin and fear have overlooked, but **the miracle stands within the present <now>** which is all there is to time.

Note # 71: The Holy Spirit’s focus on time is in the present <now>. The ego avoids the present and wants us to focus either on the past or the future. In the past, we find verification that we are limited and are victims. According to the ego, it is in the future where we will finally achieve our happiness as long as we follow its thought system. The ego’s motto is “Seek but do not find.” To the ego, our happiness is always, “I’ll be happy when...?” and of course the “when” never arrives.

T-26.VIII.6. The working out of all correction takes no time at all. 2 Yet the acceptance of the working out of **all corrections** can seem to take forever. 3 The change of purpose the Holy Spirit brought to your relationship has in it all effects that you will see **from changing your relation's purpose to that of the Holy Spirit's purpose**. 4 The effects of **changing your relation's purpose to align with the Holy Spirit's purpose** can be looked at *<now>*. 5 Why wait till **the effects from the realignment of your purpose with that of the Holy Spirit's** unfold in time? And **while you are waiting for these effects to appear before you, you fear that the effects from this new alignment of your purpose with the Holy Spirit** may not come. Although **its effects are** already there **in the <now>**, **you fail to recognize them** p559 6 You have been told that everything brings good that comes from God. 7 And yet it seems as if this **fact that everything from God brings good** is not so. 8 Good in disaster's form is difficult to credit in advance. 9 Nor is there really sense in this idea **that disaster must appear before the good effects of the cause can be received**.

Note # 72: We believe that there must be a lag between when a good deed is done and when we will receive the benefits from this good deed. Since both giving and receiving and cause and effect are instantaneous, there is no gap between these two in the eternal *<now>*, which is the mind of God. Only in the world of time and space does this appearance of a gap seem real. The time span of this gap is controlled within the mind of the one who perceives the separation as real.

T-26.VIII.7. Why should the good appear in evil's form? 2 And is it not deception if **the good does appear in evil's form**? 3 **Good's** cause is here, if **good** appears at all. 4 Why are not **the effects of good** apparent, then **in the here of the <now>**? 5 Why **are the effects of good** in the future? 6 And you seek to be content with sighing, and with "reasoning" you do not understand **why good would appear in evil's form in the now**, but **you believe that the perceived evil** will some day **appear in the future as something good**. 7 And then the meaning of **why the good had to appear in the form of present evil** will be **made clear in the future**. 8 This is not reason, for **this delay** is unjust, and clearly hints at punishment until the time of liberation is at hand. 9 Given a change of purpose for the good, there is no reason for an interval in which disaster strikes, to be perceived as "good" some day but now in form of pain. 10 This is a sacrifice of *<now,>* which could not be the cost the Holy Spirit asks for what **the Holy Spirit** gave without a cost at all.

Note # 73: The Holy Spirit gives the miracle of forgiveness whenever we ask to see things differently. The Holy Spirit asks nothing in return. No sacrifice is required when forgiveness is offered to another. Our giving up of the illusion of limitation and separateness is the giving up of the false, which is nothing. It is only our belief in time that creates an appearance of a gap between cause and effect. This gap creates the appearance that forgiveness requires sacrifice. The ego tells us that we must sacrifice something before we receive our just reward.

T-26.VIII.8. Yet this illusion **that we must sacrifice the <now> before we can receive the benefits of good** has a cause which, though untrue, must be already in your mind. 2 And this illusion of **a delay in time before good benefits arrive** is but one effect that it engenders, and one form in which its outcome is perceived. 3 This interval in time, when retribution is perceived to be the form in which the "good" appears, is but one aspect of the little space that lies between you, unforgiven still.

Note # 74: To receive the benefits of forgiveness instantaneously, we must forgive totally. We must perceive ourselves to be a joint oneness. When we withhold our forgiveness from one brother, we will continue to perceive that there appears to be a delay in our receiving the benefits from an act of partial forgiveness. We cannot truly forgive one brother unless we forgive all. Forgiveness, like truth, is all or nothing.

T-26.VIII.9. Be not content with future happiness. 2 **Future happiness** has no meaning, and is not your just reward. 3 For **in forgiveness of your brother** you have cause for freedom <now.> 4 What profits freedom in a prisoner's form? 5 Why should deliverance be disguised as death? 6 Delay is senseless, and the "reasoning" that would maintain effects of present cause must be delayed until a future time, is merely a denial of the fact that consequence and cause must come as one. 7 Look not to time, but to the little space between you still, to be delivered from **the illusion that consequence and cause must be delayed.** 8 And do not let **the illusion that consequence and cause are not simultaneous** be disguised as time, and so preserved **the illusion as a delay** because its form is changed and what it is cannot be recognized. 9 The Holy Spirit's purpose now is yours. 10 Should not **the Holy Spirit's** happiness be yours as well?

Note # 75: If we align our purpose with the Holy Spirit's purpose, our perception of the relationship will automatically change. By changing our purpose to love and forgiveness, we will receive the benefits of love and forgiveness. The Holy Spirit's purpose is that we know the peace of God. This is where our happiness lies. Cause and effect are instantaneous in the <now>. You cannot have one without the other. Our purpose, which is our goal, determines what we perceive. Thoughts become things. We must choose to teach either fear or love. Time and space will continue to exist within our split-mind as long as we perceive any part of the Sonship to be separate or excluded from our forgiveness. To escape the prison of separation and limitation, both prisoner and jailer must be allowed to go free.

Note: The <now> is not the same as Time's use of the term the 'present.'" Time allows for change and is illusory. The <now> is real, changeless and eternal.

IX. For They Have Come

T-26.IX.1. Think but how holy you must be from whom the Voice for God calls lovingly unto your brother, that you may awake in **your brother** the Voice that answers to your call! 2 And think how holy **your brother** must be when in **your brother** sleeps your own salvation, with his freedom joined! p560 3 However much you wish **your brother** be condemned, God is in **your brother.** 4 And never will you know **God** is in you as well while you attack **God's** chosen home, and battle with **God's** host, **the Christ that is your brother.** 5 Regard **your brother** gently. 6 Look with loving eyes on **your brother** who carries Christ within him, that you may behold **your brother's** glory and rejoice that Heaven is not separate from you.

Note # 76: God, the Christ, our brother and we are all part of the same Oneness. Our fate is directly tied to how we choose to perceive our brother.

T-26.IX.2. Is it too much to ask a little trust for **your brother** who carries Christ to you, that you may be forgiven all your sins, and left without a single **sin** you cherish still? 2

Forget not that a shadow held between your brother and yourself obscures the face of Christ and memory of God. 3 And would you trade **the face of Christ and memory of God** for an ancient hate? 4 The ground whereon you stand is holy ground because of **the face of Christ and memory of God** Who, standing there with you, have blessed **the ground you stand** with Their innocence and peace.

Note # 77: We must look past all beliefs that hold ourselves to be a limited ego-body and trust that our brother is innocent, sinless and guiltless. When we do this, we will see the face of Christ and memory of God in everything we perceive.

T-26.IX.3. The blood of hatred fades to let the grass grow green again, and let the flowers be all white and sparkling in the summer sun. 2 What was a place of death has now become a living temple in a world of light. 3 Because of **the face of Christ and memory of God**. 4 It is **the face of Christ and memory of God's** Presence which has lifted holiness again to take **hatred's** ancient place upon an ancient throne. 5 Because of **the face of Christ and memory of God** have miracles sprung up as grass and flowers on the barren ground that hate had scorched and rendered desolate. 6 What hate has wrought have **the face of Christ and memory of God** undone. 7 And now you stand on ground so holy Heaven leans to join with **this holy ground**, and make **this holy ground** like **Heaven**, itself. 8 The shadow of an ancient hate has gone, and all the blight and withering have passed forever from the land where **the face of Christ and memory of God** have come.

Note # 78: Love has replaced all hatred and fear. The world of perception has accepted the Holy Spirit's purpose to witness only for the Oneness of the Christ in all of us. Correct perception has replaced egoic misperception and judgment. God will take the final step in the return of the Sonship to knowledge and heaven.

T-26.IX.4. What is a hundred or a thousand years to **the face of Christ and memory of God**, or tens of thousands? 2 When **the face of Christ and memory of God** come, time's purpose is fulfilled. 3 What never was passes to nothingness when **the face of Christ and memory of God** have come. 4 What hatred claimed is given up to love, and freedom lights up every living thing and lifts **every living thing** into Heaven, where the lights grow ever brighter as each **living thing** comes home. 5 The incomplete is made complete again, and Heaven's joy has been increased because what is **Heaven's own**, **all living things that comprise the Oneness of Everything** has been restored to **Heaven**. 6 The bloodied earth is cleansed, and the insane have shed their garments of insanity to join **the face of Christ and memory of God** on the ground whereon you stand.

Note # 79: The once separate Sonship is once again united and takes its rightful place within the truth that comprises Heaven.

T-26.IX.5. Heaven is grateful for this gift of what has been withheld so long, **which is the right-mindedness of the united Sonship**. 2 For **the face of Christ and memory of God** have come to gather in Their Own, **the entire Sonship**. 3 What has been locked is opened; what was held apart from light is given up, that light may shine on **what had been perceived as separate** and leave no space nor distance lingering between the light of Heaven and the world. p561

Note # 80: The face of Christ and memory of God is gathering all the fragmented parts in order to restore the Sonship of the truth and rejoin Heaven.

T-26.IX.6. The holiest of all the spots on earth is where an ancient hatred has become a present love. 2 And **the face of Christ and memory of God** come quickly to the living temple, **within the Sonship** where a home for Them has been set up. 3 There is no place in Heaven holier. 4 And **the face of Christ and memory of God** have come to dwell within the temple offered Them, to be Their resting place as well as yours. 5 What hatred has released to love becomes the brightest light in Heaven's radiance. 6 And all the lights in Heaven brighter grow, in gratitude for what has been restored.

Note # 81: Heaven rejoices in the return of God's prodigal Son to the truth of Heaven.

T-26.IX.7. Around you angels hover lovingly, to keep away all darkened thoughts of sin, and keep the light where **your awareness of your Christ consciousness** has entered in. 2 Your footprints lighten up the world, for where you walk forgiveness gladly goes with you. 3 No one on earth but offers thanks to one who has restored his home, and sheltered a **brother** from bitter winter and the freezing cold. 4 And shall the Lord of Heaven and His Son give less in gratitude for so much more?

Note # 82: The light of Christ consciousness has saved the world from our egoic judgments and the whole Mind of God is thankful for the restoration of the split-minded to the sanity of the One Self.

T-26.IX.8. Now is the temple of the living God rebuilt as host again to **God, the Father** by Whom the temple was created. 2 Where **God, the Father** dwells, His Son dwells with Him, never separate. 3 And **the Father and His Son** give thanks that They are welcome made at last. 4 Where stood a cross stands now the risen Christ, and ancient scars are healed within **Christ** sight. 5 An ancient miracle has come to bless and to replace an ancient enmity that came to kill. 6 In gentle gratitude do God the Father and the Son return to what is Theirs, **which is the Christ**, and will forever be. 7 Now is the Holy Spirit's purpose done. 8 For **God, the Father and, His Son** have come! 9 For **God, the Father and, His Son** have come at last **to be restored to Heaven and truth!**

Note # 83: Oneness has been restored to Heaven and the peace of God has returned to all. We abide in the truth that there is only a Oneness of Everything. The holographic Mind of God is that One Self.

X. The End of Injustice

T-26.X.1. What, then, remains to be undone for you to realize **God, the Father and, His Son's** Presence **within your awareness?** 2 Only this; you have a differential view of when attack is justified, and when you think **attack** is unfair and not to be allowed. 3 When you perceive **attack** as unfair, you think that a response of anger now is just. 4 And thus you see what is the same as different. **Our belief that something is unfair is also a disguise.** 5 Confusion is not limited. 6 If **confusion** occurs at all, **confusion** will be total. 7 And **confusion's** presence, in whatever form, will hide **God and God's Son's** Presence. 8 **God and God's Son** are known with clarity or not at all. 9 Confused perception will block knowledge. 10 It is not a question of the size of the confusion, or how much **confusion**

interferes. 11 **The simple presence of confusion** shuts the door to **God and God's Son's presence**, and keeps Them there unknown to **your awareness**. p562

Note # 84: To perceive unfairness is to believe that we can be hurt and that we are not causative to our experiences. Unfairness implies that we are the victims of something outside ourselves and are unable to determine what we choose to call into the field of our awareness. It claims that we are a vulnerable ego-body that can be attacked even though we did nothing that would warrant our being punished or attacked by another. Anger is never justified since it is an attack that only perpetuates this false claim of unfair treatment caused by another's actions.

T-26.X.2. What does it mean if you perceive attack in certain forms to be unfair to you? 2 **If you perceive attack in certain forms to be unfair to you**, it means that there must be some forms in which you think **attack is fair**. 3 For otherwise, how could some **attacks** be evaluated as unfair? 4 Some **attacks**, then, are given meaning and perceived as sensible. 5 And only some **attacks** are seen as meaningless. 6 And this denies the fact that **<all attacks >** are senseless, equally without a cause or consequence, and **that all attacks** cannot have effects of any kind. 7 **God and His Son's Presence** is obscured by any veil that stands between Their shining innocence, and your awareness that **Their shining innocence** is your own **innocence** and **Their shining innocence** equally belongs to every living thing along with you. 8 God limits not. 9 And what is limited cannot be Heaven. 10 So **what is limited** must be hell.

Note # 85: Our belief that unfairness exists is a veil that blocks the realization of the Christ in all. Our belief that we could be treated unfairly is a witness to our ego's claim that we are vulnerable victims of outside forces.

T-26.X.3. Unfairness and attack are one mistake, so firmly joined that where one is perceived the other must be seen. 2 You cannot be unfairly treated. 3 The belief you are **unfairly treated** is but another form of the idea you are deprived by someone not yourself. 4 Projection of the cause of sacrifice is at the root of everything perceived to be unfair and not your just deserts. 5 Yet it is you who ask this of yourself in deep injustice to the Son of God. **You wanted to believe that you could abdicate your power of choice to someone else and thus claim he or she had the power to deprive you of something. You choose to claim that you could be an innocent victim.** 6 You have no enemy except yourself and you are enemy indeed to **your brother** because you do not know **your brother** *<as>* yourself. 7 What could be more unjust than that **your brother** be deprived of what **your brother** is, denied the right to be himself, and asked to sacrifice his Father's Love and yours as not his due?

Note # 86: Projection allows us to play the role of innocent victims. In projection, we attempt to transfer something that arose or was birthed in our mind and claim that something outside our own mind was responsible for the idea or cause. Projection allows us to make our brother appear guilty for our "perceived crimes of limitation" whenever we wish. Projection allows us to create any illusion we want. We can make our brother a sinner or a saint.

T-26.X.4. Beware of the temptation to perceive yourself unfairly treated. 2 In this view **that you can be treated unfairly**, you seek to find an innocence that is not **God and God's Son** but **your innocence** alone, and at the cost of someone else's guilt. 3 Can innocence be purchased by the giving of your guilt to someone else? 4 And *<is>* it innocence that your attack on **your brother** attempts to get? 5 Is it not retribution for your own attack upon the Son of God you seek? 6 Is it not safer to believe that you are innocent of this **attempt to purchase your innocence by the giving of your guilt to someone else?** And **is it not safer to believe that you are** victimized despite your innocence? 7 Whatever way the game of guilt is played, there must be loss. 8 **In the game of guilt**, someone must lose his innocence **so** that someone else can take **the innocence** from **the losing player**, making **the losing player's innocence** his own.

Note # 87: Projection is the tool of the game of guilt. With projection, we can throw our own guilt on anyone and believe that it sticks to the other person. Unfortunately, for the guilt-thrower, since ideas never leave the mind of the thinker, the thinker also gets to keep his guilt. Projection allows us to play to role of innocent victims even though our own mind's beliefs are the source of the perceived guilt.

T-26.X.5. **In the game of guilt**, you think your brother is unfair to you because you think that one **player** must be unfair to make the other **player** innocent. 2 And in this game **of guilt** do you perceive one **egoic** purpose for your whole relationship. **This one egoic purpose of our relationship is to transfer our guilt to an innocent brother and steal his innocent as our own.** 3 And this **special egoic purpose for the relationship** you seek to add unto the **true** purpose given **the relationship by the Holy Spirit.** 4 The Holy Spirit's purpose is to let the Presence of your holy Guests, **God and God's Son**, be known to you. 5 And to **the Holy Spirit's purpose of letting you recognize God and God's Son's presence in all relationships** nothing can be added, for the world is purposeless except for this **goal to reawakening to the truth of what you are, which is part of the One Self.** 6 To add or take away from this one goal **of the Holy Spirit, which is to the return of the Sonship to truth**, is but to take away all purpose from the world and from yourself. p563 7 And each unfairness that the world appears to lay upon you, you have laid **your unfairness on the world** by rendering **the world** purposeless, without the function that the Holy Spirit sees **that the world is for.** 8 And simple justice has been thus denied to every living thing upon the earth.

Note # 88: The ego uses this world to prove that we are the body and that the separation is real. The Holy Spirit reinterprets all of our experiences in this world in order to return the insane to right-mindedness. The Holy Spirit teaches that we remain part of the Oneness of the Mind of God.

T-26.X.6. What this injustice does to you who judge unfairly, and who see as you have judged, you cannot calculate. **This injustice is the result of our use of projection to transfer our perceived guilt to another.** 2 **Due to our misuse of projection**, the world grows dim and threatening, not a trace of all the happy sparkle that salvation brings can you perceive to lighten up your way. 3 And so **due to our misuse of projection**, you see yourself deprived of light, abandoned to the dark, unfairly left without a purpose in a futile world. 4 The world is fair because the Holy Spirit has brought injustice **that resulted from our misuse of projection** to the light within, and there has all unfairness been resolved and

been replaced with justice and with love. 5 If you perceive injustice anywhere, you need but say:

6 *By this **misuse of projection** do I deny the Presence of the Father and the Son.*

7 *And I would rather know of **the Presence of the Father and the Son** than see injustice, which **the Presence of the Father and the Son's** Presence shines away. p564*

Note # 89: We are asked not to judge anything. When we judge, we project our egoic beliefs upon another. We cannot judge correctly since we lack knowledge. Instead, we should ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit's guidance will transform all our misperceptions into correct perceptions that witnesses for the truth. The Holy Spirit will utilize this egoic world of perception to prove that we remain the shared Oneness within the Mind of God.

Projection and extension both rely upon the creative power of the mind. Projection is fear-based and is not in alignment with our Christ nature. Extension is love-based and is in alignment with the thoughts of God. Creation is the simple act of becoming what you already are by extending yourself outwardly. To create you need to have knowledge of that you are. Because we have lost knowledge's certainty, we believe we are incomplete and not whole. Thus, we think we need something outside ourselves which results in fear-based thoughts. Projection is based on what you mistakenly believe you are, not what you truly are. You project in order to believe the stories you have made up about what you are. The world that we each perceive is but a reflection of what we believe we are. Projection makes our perception and our beliefs determine what we will project.