

Chapter 4. THE ILLUSIONS OF THE EGO

Introduction

T-4.in.1. The Bible says that you should go with a brother twice as far as a **brother** asks. 2 It certainly does not suggest that you set him back on his journey. 3 Devotion to a brother cannot set you back either. 4 **Devotion to a brother** can lead only to mutual progress. 5 The result of genuine devotion is inspiration, a word which properly understood is the opposite of fatigue. 6 To be fatigued is to be dis-spirited, but to be inspired is to be in the spirit. 7 To be egocentric is to be dis-spirited, but to be Self-centered in the right sense is to be inspired or in spirit. 8 The truly inspired are enlightened and cannot abide in darkness.

Note # 1: To be Self-centered is to be in alignment with your Big “S” Self’s nature. It acknowledges your spiritual roots and encourages joining, not separation. Being a Oneness, when you assist another on their journey back to the light this also aids yourself. We assist a brother when we see his spiritual nature rather than view him as a limited ego-body. By realizing that his action can only be an expression of love or a cry for love, we allow him to be his true Self.

T-4.in.2. You can speak from the spirit or from the ego, as you choose. 2 If you speak from spirit you have chosen to "Be still and know that I am God." 3 These words are inspired because they reflect knowledge. 4 If you speak from the ego you are disclaiming knowledge instead of affirming **knowledge**, and are thus dis-spiriting yourself. 5 Do not embark on useless journeys, because **useless journeys** are indeed in vain. 6 The ego may desire **useless journeys**, but spirit cannot embark on useless journeys because **spirit** is forever unwilling to depart from **spirit’s** Foundation.

Note # 2: Only seek and witness for the truth of our Big “S” Self. Follow the voice of the Holy Spirit. If you utilize egoic thinking, you will judge wrongly and will misperceive.

T-4.in.3. The journey to the cross should be the last "useless journey." 2 Do not dwell upon **the journey to the cross**, but dismiss **the journey to the cross** as accomplished. 3 If you can accept **the journey to the cross** as your own last useless journey, you are also free to join my resurrection. 4 Until you do so your life is indeed wasted. 5 **Your life** merely re-enacts the separation, the loss of power, the futile attempts of the ego at reparation, and finally the crucifixion of the body, or death. 6 Such repetitions are endless until they are voluntarily given up. 7 Do not make the pathetic error of "clinging to the old rugged cross." 8 The only message of the crucifixion is that you can overcome the cross. 9 Until then you are free to crucify yourself as often as you choose. 10 This **pathetic error of "clinging to the old rugged cross"** is not the gospel I intended to offer you. 11 We have another journey to undertake, and if you will read these lessons carefully **these lessons** will help prepare you to undertake **this other journey**. p52

Note # 3: By our abandoning the egoic thought system and accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we accomplish the journey back to the truth that we are the “Christ”. Following the guidance of the Holy Spirit does this.

I. Right Teaching and Right Learning

T-4.I.1. A good teacher clarifies his own ideas and strengthens **his own ideas** by teaching **his own ideas**. 2 Teacher and pupil are alike in the learning process. 3 **Teacher and pupil** are in the same order of learning, and unless **teacher and pupil** share their lessons conviction will be lacking. 4 A good teacher must believe in the ideas he teaches, but **good teacher** must meet another condition; **good teacher** must believe in the students to whom he offers the ideas.

Note # 4: Both teacher and pupil aid each other when they both share the belief that the learning goal will be accomplished. We are all teachers and we are all students. We are on the journey together.

T-4.I.2. Many stand guard over their ideas because they want to protect their thought systems as they are, and learning means change. 2 Change is always fearful to the separated, because **the separated** cannot conceive of **change** as a move towards healing the separation. 3 **The separated** always perceive **change** as a move toward further separation, because the separation was their first experience of change. 4 You believe that if you allow no change to enter into your ego you will find peace. 5 This profound confusion **of the separated to not conceive of change as a move towards healing the separation**. is possible only if you maintain that the same thought system can stand on two foundations. 6 Nothing can reach spirit from the ego, and nothing can reach the ego from spirit. 7 Spirit can neither strengthen the ego nor reduce the conflict within **the ego**. 8 The ego <is> a contradiction. 9 Your self (**ego-self**) and God's Self <are> in opposition. 10 **Your self (ego-self) and God's Self** are opposed in source, in direction and in outcome. 11 **Your self (ego-self) and God's Self** are fundamentally irreconcilable, because spirit cannot perceive and the ego cannot know. 12 **Your self (ego-self) and God's Self** are therefore not in communication and can never be in communication. 13 Nevertheless, the ego can learn, even though its maker (**your split-minded self**) can be misguided. 14 **The ego's maker** cannot, however, make the totally lifeless out of the life-given.

Note # 5: The thought systems of the ego and the Holy Spirit are mutually exclusive. They are like two parallel lines; they never cross. They always contradict each other. The true and the false do not mix to become "sometimes". When we realize that each system represents a different level of thinking, we can understand why both cannot take us to the truth. The only way to the truth is by total abandonment of the egoic ladder of separation. The ego's ladder only takes us to different degrees of fear. We can never reach the truth by following the false. If we follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit, the split-minded can relearn the truth about themselves.

T-4.I.3. Spirit need not be taught, but the ego must be **taught**. 2 Learning is ultimately perceived as frightening because **learning** leads to the relinquishment, not the destruction, of the ego to the light of spirit. 3 This **relinquishment, not the destruction, of the ego to the light of spirit** is the change the ego must fear, because **the ego** does not share my charity. 4 My lesson was like yours, and because I learned **my lesson** I can teach **my lesson**. 5 I will never attack your ego, but I am trying to teach you how **your ego's** thought system arose. 6 When I remind you of your true creation, your ego cannot but respond with fear.

Note # 6: Jesus wants us to recover our decision-making ability. We each have our own decision-maker in our mind. It is your decision-maker that determines which thought system you will choose to follow at any given moment in time. Jesus asks us to reclaim our mind's decision-making ability and realize that we have the power to choose again. When we choose a different thought system, we get different results. Thus, we get change. The ego does not want change for change means you have decided to remove some of your allegiance from the ego to the Holy Spirit. ACIM and Jesus know that by teaching us the truth about the egoic thought system, we will come to our senses and freely decide to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

T-4.I.4. Teaching and learning are your greatest strengths now, because **teaching and learning** enable you to change your mind and help others to change their **minds**. 2 Refusing to change your mind will not prove that the separation has not occurred. 3 The dreamer who doubts the reality of his dream while he is still dreaming is not really healing his split mind. p53 4 You dream of a separated ego and believe in a world that rests upon a **separated ego**. 5 This **dream world that rests upon a separated ego** is very real to you. 6 You cannot undo **this dream world that rests upon a separated ego** by not changing your mind about **this dream world that rests upon a separated ego**. 7 If you are willing to renounce the role of guardian of your thought system and open **the role of guardian of your thought system** to me, I will correct **your thought system** very gently and lead you back to God.

Note # 7: The insane cannot expect to be healed by continuing to follow an insane thought system. Only someone who is sane and is aware of your current delusional state of mind can offer correction and return you to right-mindedness. Jesus is the representative for the Holy Spirit's guidance system. This guide and teacher stands ready to help us retrain our mind. We need only ask for His advice and it will be given.

T-4.I.5. Every good teacher hopes to give his students so much of his own learning that **his students** will one day no longer need **the teacher**. 2 This is the one true goal of the teacher. 3 It is impossible to convince the ego **that the one true goal of the good teacher is to no longer be needed by your students**, because **this** goes against all of **the ego's** own laws. 4 But remember that laws are set up to protect the continuity of the system in which the lawmaker believes. 5 It is natural for the ego to try to protect itself once you have made **the ego your teacher**, but it is not natural for you to want to obey **the ego's** laws unless <you> believe **the ego's laws**. 6 The ego cannot make this choice because of the nature of **the ego's** origin. 7 You can, because of the nature of your **origin**.

Note # 8: The ego wants you to always follow it for the ego's very existence depends upon you. The ego was not self-created. It was your mind that birthed your ego. You are the cause and the ego is the effect of your thinking. The ego is the result of your belief that the separation is real. It is your thinking that father your ego and the ego's existence is contingent on your decision to allow it to continue to be your adviser for your experiences of separation. Because of your divine birthright, you have the power of creation and also the power of the decision-maker.

The decision-maker is your free will. You have free will to imagine and experience whatever you want. If you wish to pretend or imagine that you are something you are not, free will gives you this power. Free will does not give you the power to change the truth,

but it does allow you to pretend that you are anything you want to be, even self-created if you dare to will that type of experience for yourself. When we believe we are self-created, we birth our ego and the egoic thought system. Self-creation allows us to experience what it would be like to be limited and separate from your Source. There was nothing wrong with us desiring the experience of separation, but somehow during the process, we forgot that we were pretending and we took the dream seriously. We identified ourselves as real participant, rather than merely an actor in a stage play. We, the dreamer, forgot that it was our own dream. We took the dream of separation seriously and in our minds it became real to us, the actors. When we choose to reclaim our right to control our own decision-maker, we will be able to decide that we no longer want to play the game of separation. The ego never wants us to rediscover that we, not the ego, have always been in control of the decision-maker.

T-4.I.6. Egos can clash in any situation, but spirit cannot clash at all. 2 If you perceive a teacher as merely "a larger ego" you will be afraid, because to enlarge an ego would be to increase anxiety about separation. 3 I will teach with you and live with you if you will think with me, but my goal will always be to absolve you finally from the need for a teacher. 4 This is the opposite of the ego-oriented teacher's goal. 5 **The ego-oriented teacher** is concerned with the effect of his ego on other egos, and therefore interprets their interaction as a means of ego preservation. 6 I would not be able to devote myself to teaching if I believed this, and you will not be a devoted teacher as long as you believe **that the role of teacher's interaction with the student is a means of ego preservation.** 7 I am constantly being perceived as a teacher either to be exalted or rejected, but I do not accept either perception for myself.

Note # 9: An ego-oriented teacher wants his student to always be dependent on him and never outgrow his need for a teacher. This is similar to the psychologist or doctor who wants his patients to get better but not so well that their patients no longer need their services.

T-4.I.7. Your worth is not established by teaching or learning. 2 Your worth is established by God. 3 As long as you dispute that **your worth is established by God** everything you do will be fearful, particularly any situation that lends itself to the belief in superiority and inferiority. 4 Teachers must be patient and repeat their lessons until **their lessons** are learned. 5 I am willing to do this, because I have no right to set your learning limits for you. 6 Again,—nothing you do or think or wish or make is necessary to establish your worth. 7 This point **that your worth is established by God** is not debatable except in delusions. 8 Your ego is never at stake because God did not create **your ego.** 9 Your spirit is never at stake because He did **create your spirit.** 10 Any confusion on this point is delusional, and no form of devotion is possible as long as **the delusion lasts regarding the fact that your worth is established by God and not by anything you do.**

Note # 10: This egoic world teaches that our worth is determined by what we do. The ego teaches that love must be earned. The thought system of the Holy Spirit knows that God established your worth and that there is nothing you can do to increase or decrease your worth in God's eyes. God so loved His Creation that He gave everything that He is to them. God has established that our birthright is our worth. He created you perfect, whole and

complete. The egoic thought system wants to limit you, don't let it. Reclaim your truth as unlimited spirit. We are a Oneness of Everything. Our will and God's Will are One.

T-4.I.8. The ego tries to exploit all situations into forms of praise for itself in order to overcome **the ego's** doubts. 2 **The ego** will remain doubtful as long as you believe in **the ego's** existence. 3 You who made **the ego** cannot trust **the ego**, because in your right mind you realize **the ego** is not real. 4 The only sane solution is not to try to change reality, which is indeed a fearful attempt, but to accept **reality** as **reality** is. 5 You are part of reality, which stands unchanged beyond the reach of your ego but within easy reach of spirit. 6 When you are afraid, be still and know that God is real, and you are His beloved Son in whom He is well pleased. 7 Do not let your ego dispute **that you are His beloved Son in whom He is well pleased**, because the ego cannot know what is as far beyond **the ego's** reach as you are.

Note # 11: Our Christ consciousness and our ego belief system are opposite. One is truth and the other represents illusion. When we choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we align with the truth. God is well pleased because He knows the truth that we are His changeless extension. We eternally are as God created us, His Children, perfect, whole and complete.

T-4.I.9. God is not the author of fear. 2 You are **the author of fear**. 3 You have chosen to create unlike Him, and have therefore made fear for yourself. 4 You are not at peace because you are not fulfilling your function **to create like God**. 5 God gave you a very lofty function that you are not meeting. 6 Your ego has chosen to be afraid instead of meeting **your function to create like God**. 7 When you awaken you will not be able to understand **that you chose to be afraid instead of meeting your function**, because it is literally incredible. 8 <Do not believe the incredible now.> 9 Any attempt to increase its believableness, **that you chose to be afraid instead of meeting your function to create like God**, is merely to postpone the inevitable. 10 The word "inevitable" is fearful to the ego, but joyous to the spirit. 11 God is inevitable, and you cannot avoid Him any more than He can avoid you.

Note # 12: Our function is to create like God. We are designed to extend the love of God. We do this by being love. Due to identification with the egoic thought system, we have attempted to create out of fear. Fear is our miscreation and, thus, it is not real. Miscreation is not our destiny and can never give us lasting joy. Being love, we must extend the truth of our "Beingness", which is only love. When we learn to control our fear, we will once again reclaim our rightful place as co-creator with Our Father. This result is certain. Time patiently waits upon our inevitable decision to accept the Atonement for ourselves and be the truth of what we are.

T-4.I.10. The ego is afraid of the spirit's joy, because once you have experienced **the spirit's joy** you will withdraw all protection from the ego, and become totally without investment in fear. 2 Your investment **in fear** is great now because fear is a witness to the separation, and your ego rejoices when you witness to **the separation**. 3 Leave **the ego and the separation** behind! 4 Do not listen to **the ego** and do not preserve **the separation and the ego**. 5 Listen only to God, Who is as incapable of deception as is the spirit He created. 6 Release yourself and release others. 7 Do not present a false and unworthy

picture of yourself to others, and do not accept such a **false and unworthy** picture of them yourself.

Note # 13: Our ego's self-image of littleness is totally false and unworthy of a God's Son. When we realize that we control our own decision-maker, we will allow ourselves to choose again. We will recover right-mindedness. Who but the insane would choose the fantasy of littleness over the reality of their Big "S" Self?

T-4.I.11. The ego has built a shabby and unsheltering home for you, because **the ego** cannot build otherwise. 2 Do not try to make this impoverished house stand. 3 **The ego's impoverished house's** weakness is your strength. 4 Only God could make a home that is worthy of His creations. **His creations have chosen to leave the home that God made for His creations** empty by **His creations'** own dispossession of **God's home**. 5 Yet His home will stand forever, and is ready for you when you choose to enter **His home**. 6 Of this you can be wholly certain. 7 God is as incapable of creating the perishable as the ego is of making the eternal.

Note # 14: Our birthright cannot be lost or stolen. Our true Home awaits our decision to bear witness only for the truth. God never took away our Home. We freely chose to move out. The Holy Spirit has kept God's Home for us and we will return to God's Home whenever we decide to accept the Atonement for ourselves. Our return is only one decision away. The Holy Spirit asks our decision-maker to choose again.

T-4.I.12. Of your ego you can do nothing to save yourself or others, but of your spirit you can do everything for the salvation of both **yourself or others**. p55 2 Humility is a lesson for the ego, not for the spirit. 3 Spirit is beyond humility, because **spirit** recognizes its radiance and gladly sheds its light everywhere. 4 The meek shall inherit the earth because their egos are humble, and this gives **the meek** truer perception. 5 The Kingdom of Heaven is the spirit's right, whose beauty and dignity are far beyond doubt, beyond perception, and stand forever as the mark of the Love of God for His creations, who are wholly worthy of Him and only of Him. 6 Nothing else **but the Kingdom of Heaven** is sufficiently worthy to be a gift for a creation of God Himself.

Note # 15: The ego's thought system has a plan for everything that you choose to experience. This egoic plan is based on its erroneous beliefs in separation and limitation. From this error laden thought system, the ego judges incorrectly and then determines what must be done to fix what it misperceived and then also misjudged in the first place. This egoic thought system is bankrupt. The false can do nothing to change to truth. The false can only replace one illusion with another equally false illusion. Only the Holy Spirit, Who knows both the truth and your illusion can return you to right-mindedness. Once in your right-mind, Spirit can do everything through you to return you and your brother to knowledge.

T-4.I.13. I will substitute for your ego if you wish, but **I will** never **substitute** for your spirit. 2 A father can safely leave a child with an elder brother who has shown himself responsible, but this involves no confusion about the child's origin. 3 The brother can protect the child's body and **child's** ego, but the **brother** does not confuse himself with the father because he does this. 4 I can be entrusted with your body and your ego only because

this enables you not to be concerned with **your body and your ego**, and lets me teach you **your body and your ego's** unimportance. 5 I could not understand their importance to you if I had not once been tempted to believe in **my body and my ego** myself. 6 Let us undertake to learn this lesson together so we can be free of **the body and the ego** together. 7 I need devoted teachers who share my aim of healing the mind. 8 Spirit is far beyond the need of your protection or mine. 9 Remember this:

10 In this world you need not have tribulation because I have overcome the world. 11 **Because I have overcome this world (world of the ego body)**, this is why you should be of good cheer.

Note # 16: Jesus has “been there and done that.” As such, he is the perfect teacher, who can act as our mentor and guide. Jesus is the “way shower” because he has completed the journey back Home. Jesus is an experienced, older brother who was just like us. Jesus, like us, is a Child of God. Jesus, unlike us, has learned that he was not self-created and that all power resided in our Source. Jesus knows that the Sonship could never usurp God’s power and thus he will teach us that we remain the sinless and guiltless Child of God. God is Cause and we are His Effect. Jesus brings news that our inheritance has not been lost and we should rejoice. This egoic world of body and form is not real. It is an illusion.

II. The Ego and False Autonomy

T-4.II.1. It is reasonable to ask how the mind could ever have made the ego. 2 In fact, **how the mind could ever have made the ego** is the best question you could ask. 3 There is, however, no point in giving an answer **to the question of how the mind could ever have made the ego** in terms of the past because the past does not matter, and history would not exist if the same errors were not being repeated in the present. 4 Abstract thought applies to knowledge because knowledge is completely impersonal, and examples are irrelevant to **knowledge's** understanding. 5 Perception, however, is always specific, and therefore quite concrete.

Note # 17: It does not matter how the mind made the ego, but ACIM states that we are still making the same choice in this moment. Our experience is based on what we choose to believe. Our beliefs or thoughts generate our experiences. Thoughts become things. “As a Man thinks, so he becomes.” We are constantly creating our world of provisional reality.

T-4.II.2. Everyone makes an ego or a self for himself, which is subject to enormous variation because of **the ego's** instability. 2 He also makes an ego for everyone else he perceives, which is equally variable **or instable**. p56 3 Their interaction (**your own ego and the ego you made for someone else**) is a process that alters both, because they were not made by or with the Unalterable. 4 It is important to realize that this alteration can and does occur as readily when the interaction takes place in the mind as when **the interaction** involves physical proximity. 5 Thinking about another ego is as effective in changing relative perception as is physical interaction. 6 There could be no better example that the ego is only an idea and not a fact.

Note # 18: We create our ego, which determines how we perceive ourselves to be. We also create an ego for everyone else. Perception, since it is not knowledge, is subject to change based on the mind of the perceiver. Since these ego's are our own perception

which is subject to change, the egos that we make and project upon ourselves and others are unstable and subject to change. Being only thought projections, egos represent the idea that we hold in our mind about any subject. It is our story, not the “facts”. As we change our thinking we change our perception of what we believe, thus, also, changing our ego projections. Our perception forms the basis for our own “provisional reality”, “dream state”, or “illusionary world”. By changing our thinking, we can change our “provisional reality”.

T-4.II.3. Your own state of mind is a good example of how the ego was made. 2 When you threw knowledge away it is as if you never had **knowledge**. 3 This is so apparent that one need only recognize **that, when you throw knowledge away it is as if you never had knowledge**, to see that it does happen. 4 If this occurs (**throwing knowledge away and than forgetting that you once had it**) in the present, why is it surprising that it occurred in the past? 5 Surprise is a reasonable response to the unfamiliar, though hardly to something that occurs with such persistence. 6 But do not forget that the mind need not work that way, even though **the mind** does work that way now.

Note # 19: When our mind chooses to believe something different, all past knowledge that would be contradictory to the new belief is temporarily forgotten. Knowledge requires certainty. When we choose to perceive, we lose certainty and with it knowledge

T-4.II.4. Think of the love of animals for their offspring, and the need the **animals** feel to protect **their offspring** 2 That is because they regard **their offspring** as part of themselves. 3 No one dismisses something he considers part of himself. 4 You react to your ego much as God does to His creations,—with love, protection and charity. 5 Your reactions to the self you made are not surprising. 6 In fact, **your reactions to the self you made (your ego)** resemble in many ways how you will one day react to your real creations, which are as timeless as you are. 7 The question is not how you respond to the ego, but what you believe you are. 8 Belief is an ego function, and as long as your origin is open to belief you are regarding, **or questioning, what you believe you are**, from an ego viewpoint. 9 When teaching is no longer necessary you will merely know God. 10 Belief that there is another way of perceiving is the loftiest idea of which ego thinking is capable. 11 That is because **belief that there is another way of perceiving**, contains a hint of recognition that the ego is not the Self.

Note # 20: The “problem” of the ego comes from our faulty belief in what we are. Are we spirit (Son of God), perfect, whole and complete? Or, are we ego-bodies subject to lack and limitation? We cannot create like God when we are under the false belief that we are something other than as God created us. The ego claims that we are self-created. Yet, when the ego changes its beliefs and thinking, it admits that perception can change and that ego is not always right. It confirms that the ego is not sure what it is. Our Big “S” Self is in the “I AM “ state. The ego is in the “WHAT AM I?” state. The ego’s instability in thinking hints that anything the ego claims to be truth is subject to change. If this is the case, can we trust and believe the ego’s definition of what we are?

T-4.II.5. Undermining the ego's thought system must be perceived as painful, even though this is anything but true. 2 Babies scream in rage if you take away a knife or scissors, although **the babies** may well harm themselves if you do not **take away the knife**

3 In this sense you are still a baby. 4 You have no sense of real self-preservation, and are likely to decide that you need precisely what would hurt you most. 5 Yet whether or not you recognize it now, you have agreed to cooperate in the effort to become both harmless and helpful, attributes that must go together. 6 Your attitudes even toward **both harmless and helpful** are necessarily conflicted, because all attitudes are ego-based. 7 This **conflict** will not last. 8 Be patient a while and remember that the outcome is as certain as God. p57

Note # 21: We have been brought up to believe that we are a separate limited ego-body. Although the belief that we are a body is detrimental to the happiness of our true Self, we have adopted the belief that the egoic thought system protects and defends our reality. In truth, the egoic thought system defends only the dream of separation while attacking the truth of your reality as Spirit, your Big "S" Self.

T-4.II.6. Only those who have a real and lasting sense of abundance can be truly charitable. 2 This is obvious when you consider what is involved **to be truly charitable**. 3 To the ego, to give anything implies that you will have to do without it. 4 When you associate giving with sacrifice, you give only because you believe that you are somehow getting something better, and can therefore do without the thing you give. 5 "Giving to get" is an inescapable law of the ego, **since the ego** always evaluates itself in relation to other egos. 6 **The ego** is therefore continually preoccupied with the belief in scarcity that gave rise to **the ego**. 7 **The ego's** whole perception of other egos as real is only an attempt to convince itself that **<the ego>** is real. 8 "Self-esteem" in ego terms means nothing more than that the ego has deluded itself into accepting **the ego's** reality, and is therefore temporarily less predatory. 9 This "self-esteem" is always vulnerable to stress, a term which refers to any perceived threat to the ego's existence.

Note # 22: ACIM also points out that egoic "charity" is not true, unconditional giving but rather we give to get. Egoic charity is an exchange in which we believe we will get something better than what we gave up. We will get our reward in heaven or we will be blessed ten fold. This is why ACIM states most charitable giving is an exchange to get.

ACIM gives its definition of "**STRESS**" as any perceived threat to the ego. Stress is in the domain of the ego and its insistence on lack. It is not a function of the body but a misperception based on what you are.

T-4.II.7. The ego literally lives by comparisons. 2 Equality is beyond grasp, and charity becomes impossible. 3 The ego never gives out of abundance, because **the ego** was made as a substitute for **abundance**. 4 That is why the concept of "getting" arose in the ego's thought system. 5 Appetites are "getting" mechanisms, representing the ego's need to confirm itself. 6 **The ego's need to confirm itself** is as true of body appetites as **the ego's need to confirm itself** is true of the so-called appetites of the "higher ego needs." 7 Body appetites are not physical in origin. 8 The ego regards the body as **the ego's** home, and tries to satisfy itself through the body. 9 But the idea **that through the body the ego can satisfy itself** is possible, is a decision of the mind **yet the mind has** become completely confused about what is really possible.

Note # 23: Although the mind is the true seat of power, your uncertainty as to what you are has allowed you to abdicate that power to the ego's belief system. The ego's thought system is design to bear false witness against the truth and claim that you are either self-

created or that you have a will that opposes God's Will. Since you arose from lack, you must get what you need from outside yourself. This is further proof that you are separate and apart from the Mind of God and cannot be a Oneness of Everything.

T-4.II.8. The ego believes it is completely on its own, which is merely another way of describing how **the ego** thinks it originated. 2 This **belief that the ego is completely on its own** is such a fearful state that **the ego** can only turn to other egos and try to unite with **the other egos** in a feeble attempt at identification, or attack **the other egos** in an equally feeble show of strength. 3 **The ego** is not free, however, to open the premise to question, because the premise (**the belief that the ego is completely on its own**) is **the ego's** foundation. 4 The ego is the mind's belief that **the mind** is completely on its own. 5 The ego's ceaseless attempts to gain the spirit's acknowledgment and thus establish **the ego's** own existence are useless. 6 Spirit in its knowledge is unaware of the ego. 7 **Spirit** does not attack **the ego**; **Spirit** merely cannot conceive of **the ego** at all. 8 While the ego is equally unaware of spirit, **the ego** does perceive itself as being rejected by something greater than itself (**Spirit**). 9 This is why self-esteem in ego terms must be delusional. 10 The creations of God do not create myths, although creative effort can be turned to mythology. p58 11 **Creative efforts can be turned to mythology**, however, only under one condition; what **creative effort egoically** makes is then no longer creative. 12 Myths are entirely perceptual, and so ambiguous in form and characteristically good-and-evil in nature that the most benevolent of **the myths are** not without fearful connotations.

Note # 24: The self-creation myth of the ego is the seat of all fear. It is the bedrock for the belief that God's creation could usurp God's authority and oppose God's Will. This idea that we could be something other than our God, our Source, has led to the ego's unholy alliance with sin, guilt and fear. These three "kissing cousins" always show up together as a threesome upon our acceptance of the belief in separation.

T-4.II.9. Myths and magic are closely associated, since myths are usually related to ego origins, and magic to the powers the ego ascribes to itself. 2 Mythological systems generally include some account of "the creation," and associate **its' account of "the creation,"** with its particular form of magic. 3 The so-called "battle for survival" is only the ego's struggle to preserve itself, and **the ego's** interpretation of its own beginning. 4 This beginning is usually associated with physical birth, because it is hard to maintain that the ego existed before that point in time (**physical birth**). 5 The more "religiously" ego-oriented may believe that the soul existed before, and will continue to exist after a temporary lapse into ego life. 6 Some even believe that the soul will be punished for this lapse **into ego life**. 7 However, salvation does not apply to spirit, **since spirit** is not in danger and does not need to be salvaged.

Note # 25: Spirit, being one with God, has no need for salvation for it eternally rests in the Mind of God. Only a belief system that claims that separation from God happened, would require and develop a mythology of salvation for its return to God.

T-4.II.10. Salvation is nothing more than "right-mindedness," which is not the One-mindedness of the Holy Spirit, but **"right-mindedness"** must be achieved before One-mindedness is restored. 2 Right-mindedness leads to the next step automatically, because right perception is uniformly without attack, and therefore wrong-mindedness is

obliterated. 3 The ego cannot survive without judgment, and **the ego** is laid aside accordingly **when right-mindedness is achieved**. 4 **Since wrong-mindedness has been obliterated because of right perception**, the mind then has only one direction in which **the mind** can move. 5 **The mind's** direction is always automatic, because **the direction** cannot but be dictated by the thought system to which **the mind** adheres.

Note # 26: The ego must judge in order to survive. Judgment is used by the ego to confirm that the ego is separate from something "out there". If there is only a Oneness, who could the ego judge against?

Once we start to request the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will automatically gravitate more and more toward the help of the Holy Spirit. We feel positive emotions when we drop our egoic judgments and respond to a brother with love and forgiveness. These positive emotions testify to the effectiveness of love's ability to remove fear. This pull toward the inner peace found in the thought system of the Holy Spirit is magnetic and goes in one direction. Once begun, there is no turning back. It is merely a question of time before the thought system of the ego is abandoned entirely.

T-4.II.11. It cannot be emphasized too often that correcting perception is merely a temporary expedient. 2 **Correct perception** is necessary only because misperception is a block to knowledge, while accurate perception is a steppingstone towards **knowledge**. 3 The whole value of right perception lies in the inevitable realization that *<all>* perception is unnecessary. 4 This **realization that *<all>* perception is unnecessary** removes the block entirely. 5 You may ask how **this removal of the block** is possible as long as you appear to be living in this world. 6 That is a reasonable question. 7 You must be careful, however, that you really understand **the question**. 8 Who is the "you" who are living in this world? 9 Spirit is immortal, and immortality is a constant state. 10 **Spirit is immortal, and immortality is a constant state** is as true now as it ever was or ever will be, because **immortality, like spirit**, implies no change at all. 11 **Immortality** is not a continuum, nor is **immortality** understood by being compared to an opposite. p59 12 Knowledge never involves comparisons. 13 That **knowledge never involves comparisons** is **knowledge's** main difference from everything else the mind can grasp.

Note # 27: We seek oneness, which is the result of knowledge. When the separation occurred in our minds, we "lost" knowledge and replaced knowledge with perception. Perception can vary from person to person. Perception is not stable since it arises out of a split-mind. The mind is under the influence of right-mindedness when it is following the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Right- perception arises from the decision to ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance. The mind is under the influence of wrong-mindedness when it is under the belief system of the ego. When we misperceive, knowledge is blocked. To correct this block, it is necessary to recover right-mindedness.

This block, like all other fear based thoughts are the product of illusion. They appear to exist only in the mind of the perceiver of the dream of separation. Awaken the power of the decision-maker to his ability to choose again and he will freely choose to awaken to truth. Our tolerance for pain is high but it is not infinite. Eventually we will ask to be shown another way to look at our experiences. When we do this, the Holy Spirit will be there.

III. Love without Conflict

T-4.III.1. It is hard to understand what "The Kingdom of Heaven is within you" really means. 2 This is because **what "The Kingdom of Heaven is within you" really means** is not understandable to the ego, which interprets **this statement** as if something outside is inside, and this does not mean anything. 3 The word "within" is unnecessary. 4 The Kingdom of Heaven *<is>* you. 5 What else *<but>* you did the Creator create, and what else *<but>* you is His Kingdom? 6 This is the whole message of the Atonement; a message which in its totality transcends the sum of its parts. 7 You, too, have a Kingdom that your spirit created. 8 **Your spirit** has not ceased to create because of the ego's illusions. 9 Your creations are no more fatherless than you are. 10 Your ego and your spirit will never be co-creators, but your spirit and your Creator will always be. 11 Be confident that your creations are as safe as you are.

12 The Kingdom is perfectly united and perfectly protected, and the ego will not prevail against **the Kingdom**. 13 Amen.

Note # 28: Heaven is not a place. It is a state of mind or Spirit. As long as we believe ourselves to be a body, we cannot understand how this could be. ACIM is mind training. It asks us to question everything the ego has taught us so that we can choose differently. To abandon everything you have been taught to be true requires either great courage or great desperation. You need to ask yourself, has the egoic thought system brought you lasting peace, joy and happiness? If not, why not try something else? If that something else does not give you improved results, you can always go back to your old ways of thinking.

ACIM has an accompanying workbook consisting of 365 daily lessons. These lessons are to retrain your mind to a new paradigm of thinking. The workbook lessons will move the teachings of ACIM from your head to your heart. If you are serious about changing your life's direction, you need to do these lessons. To claim you know and not to live it, is not to know.

T-4.III.2. This (**T-4 III.1.12. The Kingdom is perfectly united and perfectly protected, and the ego will not prevail against the Kingdom. 13 Amen.**) is written in the form of a prayer because it is useful in moments of temptation. 2 **This prayer, (T-4 III.12.)** is a declaration of independence. 3 You will find it (**T-4 III.12.**) very helpful if you understand it fully. 4 The reason you need my help is because you have denied your own Guide and therefore need guidance. 5 My role is to separate the true from the false, so truth can break through the barriers the ego has set up and **truth** can shine into your mind. 6 Against our united strength the ego cannot prevail.

Note # 29: Egoic thinking has brainwashed us so effectively that we cannot see the forest through the trees. Only someone above the level of the trees can direct us home. It is impossible to change error thinking when you are being constantly told that this is just the way it is and you have no power to affect change over your experience. You need to be told that you have the ability to choose again.

T-4.III.3. It is surely apparent by now why the ego regards spirit as **the ego's** "enemy." 2 The ego arose from the separation, and **the ego's** continued existence depends on your continuing belief in the separation. 3 The ego must offer you some sort of reward for maintaining this belief **in the separation**. 4 All **the ego** can offer is a sense of temporary existence, which begins with **the ego's** own beginning and ends with **the ego's**

own ending. 5 **The ego** tells you this life is your existence because **this life is the ego's own existence**. 6 Against this sense of temporary existence spirit offers you the knowledge of permanence and unshakable being. 7 No one who has experienced the revelation of **the spirit's knowledge of permanence and unshakable being** can ever fully believe in the ego again. p60 8 How can **the ego's** meager offering to you **of temporary existence** prevail against the glorious gift of God **which is permanence and unshakable being**?

Note # 30: When we compare what each thought system promise their followers, only an insane mind would choose the egoic thought system. Because of this fact, the ego never wants you to rediscover that you have the ability to choose again. ACIM goal is to reawaken the decision-maker within you to the fact that you still have free will and, therefore, can choose differently. You can choose to follow the Holy Spirit's thought system and accept the Atonement, which is the Truth about yourself.

T-4.III.4. You who identify with your ego cannot believe God loves you. 2 You do not love what you made (**the ego**), and what you made (**the ego**) does not love you. 3 Being made out of the denial of the Father, the ego has no allegiance to **you**, its maker. 4 You cannot conceive of the real relationship that exists between God and His creations because of your hatred for the self you made. 5 You project onto the ego the decision to separate, and this conflicts with the love you feel for the ego because you made **the ego**. 6 No love in this world is without this ambivalence, and since no ego has experienced love without ambivalence the concept **of love without this ambivalence** is beyond **the ego's** understanding. 7 Love will enter immediately into any mind that truly wants **love**, but **the mind** must want **love** truly. 8 This means that **the mind** wants **love** without ambivalence, and this kind of wanting is wholly without the ego's "drive to get."

Note # 31: The ego is incapable of love or of understanding the meaning of love. Because the ego was miscreated by our belief in lack, the ego believes that the only purpose of giving is to get. Unconditional love, which is the only love that exists, gives without expectation of some return or payoff. The ego is incapable of understanding that to give is to receive since its beliefs are rooted in separation, limitation and struggle. To the ego, its home is the body form. The ego demands that everything must be a "good trade" if the body is to continue to exist.. Unconditional love gives all because it is all. By giving love, you prove that you are love for it is impossible the give what you do not have.

T-4.III.5. There is a kind of experience so different from anything the ego can offer that you will never want to cover or hide **this experience** again. 2 It is necessary to repeat that your belief in darkness and hiding is why the light cannot enter. 3 The Bible gives many references to the immeasurable gifts which are for you, but for which you must ask. 4 This **asking** is not a condition as the ego sets conditions. 5 It is the glorious condition of what you are.

Note # 32: Because you are God's Son, created in God's image, all is given you. Because you have free will, you are allowed to claim your birthright at any time. Your birthright is always yours for the asking. It cannot be denied you, since this is how God created you. It is God's Will that you be perfect, whole, and complete. What God created is changeless. You can choose not to remember your birthright and in the realm of time, even reject your inheritance. Yet, it is never lost, just forgotten. When you choose to temporarily reject your

inheritance, you make your belief in the separation appear real. Yet, even while you use time to experience the dream of separation, you still remain God's child. You only need to wake up and reclaim (ask for) your inheritance. Upon reawakening, you will remember that you are unlimited Spirit, not an ego-body, and you will remember your Father, Who created you. The prodigal son has return to His Home.

T-4.III.6. No force except your own will is strong enough or worthy enough to guide you. 2 In this, **your will**, you are as free as God, and must remain so forever. 3 Let us ask the Father in my name to keep you mindful of His Love for you and **your love** for Him. 4 **God** has never failed to answer this request to **keep you mindful of His Love for you and your love for Him**, because it asks only for what He has already willed. 5 Those who call truly are always answered. 6 Thou shalt have no other gods before Him because there *<are>* **no other gods**

Note # 33: We have been given free will, which is the power of choice. Yet, free will does not give us the power to change our Source. We are the Effect of God's Thought and thus, God must always be our Cause. We are not self-created. Being an extension of the Mind or Thought of God, we remain a Oneness within that Mind. Since there is only one Mind and one will, our will and God's Will must be the same. Free will allows us to deny this truth, but our denial cannot change this truth.

T-4.III.7. It has never really entered your mind to give up every idea you ever had that opposes knowledge. 2 You retain thousands of little scraps of fear that prevent the Holy One from entering. 3 Light cannot penetrate through the walls you make to block **the light**, and **light** is forever unwilling to destroy what you have made. 4 No one can see through a wall, but I can step around **a wall**. 5 Watch your mind for the scraps of fear, or you will be unable to ask me to **step around your wall**. 6 I can help you only as our Father created us. 7 I will love you and honor you and maintain complete respect for what you have made, but I will not uphold **what you have made** unless **what you have made** is true. 8 I will never forsake you any more than God will, but I must wait as long as you choose to forsake yourself. p61 9 Because I wait in love and not in impatience, you will surely ask me truly. 10 I will come in response to a single unequivocal call.

Note # 34: Because you have free will, neither Jesus, nor the Holy Spirit, would attempt to impose the Truth upon you. Their will merely speaks for the Truth but Truth never attacks. Truth just is. Only by your asking for their guidance will their assistance be made available to you. But when you ask for their help, it will be provided. This is what was meant by the statement that you must ask for the gifts God has given you. When you ask, you acknowledge your willingness to question the validity of your egoic belief system. If asked, the Holy Spirit will gently remind you Who created you and what you really are.

T-4.III.8. Watch carefully and see what it is you are really asking for. 2 Be very honest with yourself in **what it is you are really asking for**, for we must hide nothing from each other. 3 If you will really try to do this (**be honest with yourself**), you have taken the first step toward preparing your mind for the Holy One to enter **your mind**. 4 We will prepare for this together, for once **the Holy One** has come, you will be ready to help me make other minds ready for **the Holy One**. 5 How long will you deny **the Holy One** His Kingdom?

Note # 35: When we accept the truth about our Big “S” Self, we become a teacher of this truth. To teach the truth, we must be the truth. By our giving the truth to others, we prove we have it. For in a Oneness, to give is to receive.

T-4.III.9. In your own mind, though denied by the ego, is the declaration of your release. 2 <God has given you everything.> 3 This one fact **that God has given you everything** means the ego does not exist, and this makes **the ego** profoundly afraid. 4 In the ego's language, "to have" and "to be" are different, but they are identical to the Holy Spirit. 5 The Holy Spirit knows that you both <have> everything and <are> everything. 6 Any distinction in this respect is meaningful only when the idea of "getting," which implies a lack, has already been accepted. 7 That is why we make no distinction between <having> the Kingdom of God and <being> the Kingdom of God.

Note # 36: Because the ego comes from lack, the ego believes in a “zero-sum game”. If someone wins the other side must lose. There is no possibility of a win-win situation. Because of this sense of lack to the ego, to have is to get. You cannot just BE when you need to protect what you have gotten. Having is a constant battle for the ego since the ego “lives” in constant fear of loosing what it has. The ego believes that you are form and form cannot be shared. If I give you my pencil, I now lack one pencil. Sharing of form always requires sacrifice on the givers part. Due to the ego’s belief that to give is to get, the ego always demands a “good trade.”

To Spirit, having and being are the same since Spirit comes from abundance and oneness. Spirit knows it is not a body and there is nothing to fear. There is only the Oneness, which is Spirit, Mind or the Thought of God. Thoughts can be shared with no loss to the giver. Shared thoughts are extended and strengthened, not diminished. Spirit is everything and Spirit has everything. Spirit knows there is no lack. Spirit knows that having and being are the same. Being is the creative process of extending what It is.

T-4.III.10. The calm being of God's Kingdom, which in your sane mind is perfectly conscious, is ruthlessly banished from the part of the mind the ego rules. 2 The ego is desperate because **the ego** opposes literally invincible odds, whether you are asleep or awake. 3 Consider how much vigilance you have been willing to exert to protect your ego, and how little to protect your right mind. 4 Who but the insane would undertake to believe what is not true, and then protect this belief at the cost of truth?

Note # 37: The calm being is he who knows that he is the Son of God. It is the Christ consciousness part of our mind. When the separation occurred, the mind was split into right-mindedness, which is under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and wrong-mindedness, which is under the guidance of the ego and the ego’s belief in lack. The Son of God has fallen asleep and does not remember His birthright. The mind has fallen under to the guidance of the ego, and the mind believes that it is an ego-body rather than a spiritual being. Because you believe that you are an ego-body, this becomes your “provisional reality”. Ultimately this egoic dream world (“your provisional reality”) that you miscreated will be surrender to right-mindedness. You cannot change the truth of what God created. You must accept the truth that you were and always will be perfect, whole and complete. The ego can oppose God’s Will, but it cannot triumph over God’s Will.

IV. This Need Not Be

T-4.IV.1. If you cannot hear the Voice for God, it is because you do not choose to listen to **the Voice for God**. 2 That you <do> listen to the voice of your ego is demonstrated by your attitudes, your feelings and your behavior. 3 Yet **to** listen to the voice of your ego is what you want. 4 **The voice of your ego** is what you are fighting to keep, and **the voice of your ego** is what you are vigilant to save. 5 Your mind is filled with schemes to save the face of your ego, and you do not seek the face of Christ. 6 The glass in which the ego seeks to see its face is dark indeed. 7 How can **the ego** maintain the trick of **the ego's** existence except with mirrors? p62 8 But where you look to find yourself is up to you.

Note # 38: You can choose to see yourself as Son of God (face of Christ), or you can choose to see yourself as an ego-body. When the voice of the ego controls attitudes, feelings and behavior, you cannot change your mind as to who you are. You need to choose for the Voice of God, the Holy Spirit.

T-4.IV.2. I have said that you cannot change your mind by changing your behavior, but I have also said, and many times, that you <can> change your mind. 2 When your mood tells you that you have chosen wrongly, and **chosen wrongly** is whenever you are not joyous, then <know this *lack of joy need not be*>. 3 In every case you have thought wrongly about some brother God created, and are perceiving images your ego makes in a darkened glass. 4 Think honestly what you have thought that God would not have thought, and what you have not thought that God would have you think. 5 Search sincerely for what you have done and left undone accordingly, and then change your mind to think with God's. 6 This **changing your mind to think with God's mind** may seem hard to do, but it is much easier than trying to think against **God**. 7 Your mind is one with God's **mind**. 8 Denying **that your mind is one with God's mind**, and thinking **that you were separate** has held your ego together, but has literally split your mind. 9 As a loving brother I am deeply concerned with your mind, and urge you to follow my example as you look at yourself and at your brother, and see in both **yourself and your brother** the glorious creations of a glorious Father.

Note # 39: Jesus wants us to follow our bliss, which is thoughts that align with God's Will that we be happy. When we are not joyous and have lost our peace of mind, our Big "S" Self is telling us that we are not in alignment with right-mindedness.

T-4.IV.3. When you are sad, <know this *need not be*>. 2 Depression comes from a sense of being deprived of something you want and do not have. 3 Remember that you are deprived of nothing except by your own decisions, and then decide otherwise.

Note # 40: Free will makes you the master to choose whatever you wish to experience. There are neither victims nor accidents.

T-4.IV.4. When you are anxious, realize that anxiety comes from the capriciousness of the ego, and <know this *need not be*>. 2 You can be as vigilant against the ego's dictates as for **the ego's dictates**.

Note # 41: Whatever thought system you value, you will be vigilant for that one.

T-4.IV.5. When you feel guilty, remember that the ego has indeed violated the laws of God, but <you> have not **violated the laws of God**. 2 Leave the "sins" of the ego to me. 3 **Leave the "sins" of the ego** is what Atonement is for. 4 But until you change your mind about those whom your ego has hurt, the Atonement cannot release you. 5 While you feel guilty **about those whom your ego has hurt**, your ego is in command, because only the ego can experience guilt. 6 <*This guilt need not be*>.

Note # 42: You are a Child of God. The Atonement is the acceptance of our guiltlessness and sinlessness. Yet, until you are willing to extend this same guiltlessness and sinlessness to your brother, it cannot be yours. To give is to receive and you cannot give what you do not have. When you accept the Atonement for yourself, you accept and extend it to all.

T-4.IV.6. Watch your mind for the temptations of the ego, and do not be deceived by **the temptations of the ego**. 2 **The ego's temptations** offer you nothing. 3 When you have given up **this** voluntary dis-spiriting **by the ego**, you will see how your mind can focus and rise above fatigue and heal. 4 Yet you are not sufficiently vigilant against the demands of the ego to disengage yourself. 5 <*This need not be*>.

Note # 43: We cannot accept the Atonement for ourselves partially. Unless we give our allegiance totally to the Holy Spirit, we will remain trapped in fear. Partial denial of our birthright is total denial. In the illusion of time and space, we can pretend that there are exceptions to truth but this lie will keep us trapped in the insanity of wrong-mindedness.

T-4.IV.7. The habit of engaging with God and His creations is easily made if you actively refuse to let your mind slip away. 2 The problem is not one of concentration; **the problem** is the belief that no one, including yourself, is worth consistent effort. p63 3 Side with me consistently against this deception **that no one, including yourself, is worth consistent effort**, and do not permit this shabby belief to pull you back. 4 The disheartened are useless to themselves and to me, but only the ego can <be> disheartened.

Note # 44: Unless you see the value and worth of something, you will not put forth consistent effort or maintain your relationship with it. Currently, we do not believe anything is worth the effort required to maintain right-mindedness.

T-4.IV.8. Have you really considered how many opportunities you have had to gladden yourself, and how many **of opportunities to gladden yourself**, you have refused? 2 There is no limit to the power of a Son of God, but **a Son of God** can limit the expression of a his power as much as **a Son of God** chooses. 3 Your mind and mine can unite in shining your ego away, **thus** releasing the strength of God into everything you think and do. 4 Do not settle for anything less than this, **releasing the strength of God into everything you think and do**, and refuse to accept anything but this (**releasing the strength of God into everything you think and do**) as your goal. 5 Watch your mind carefully for any beliefs that hinder **your mind's** accomplishment, and step away from **any beliefs that hinder your mind's accomplishment**. 6 Judge how well you have done this (**uniting with God's Will**) by your own feelings, for this is the one right use of judgment.

7 Judgment, like any other defense, can be used to attack or protect; to hurt or to heal. 8 The ego <should> be brought to judgment and found wanting there. 9 Without your own allegiance, protection and love, the ego cannot exist. 10 Let **the ego** be judged truly and you must withdraw allegiance, protection and love from **the ego**.

Note # 45: The ego demands that we be right. The Holy Spirit knows that God wills that you be happy. By following your feelings, you can tell how your current thinking aligns with your Big "S" Self. Good feelings like joy and peace indicate alignment with your Source. Bad or fearful feelings warn you of your alignment with the egoic belief system of lack. Would you rather be right or happy? By follow your feeling toward your bliss, you will return to the peace of God.

T-4.IV.9. You are a mirror of truth, in which God Himself shines in perfect light. 2 To the ego's dark glass you need but say, "I will not look there (**in ego's dark glass or viewpoint**) because I know these images **in the ego's dark glass** are not true." 3 Then let the Holy One shine on you in peace, knowing that **peace** and only **peace** must be. 4 **The Holy One's** Mind shone on you in your creation and brought your mind into being. 5 **The Holy One's** Mind still shines on you and must shine through you. 6 Your ego cannot prevent **the Holy One** from shining on you, but **your ego** can prevent you from letting **the Holy One** shine through you.

Note # 46: What you perceive is based on what you choose to value. Your decision-maker is constantly choosing between the two thought systems. If given a chance, the Holy Spirit can reinterpret any egoic experience into a holy one. Perception follows your purpose. Is your purpose inclusion or separation? If separation, we merely need to choose again.

T-4.IV.10. The First Coming of Christ is merely another name for the creation, for Christ is the Son of God. 2 The Second Coming of Christ means nothing more than the end of the ego's rule and the healing of the mind. 3 I was created like you in the First (**the creation**), and I have called you to join with me in the Second (**the end of the ego's rule and the healing of the mind**). 4 I am in charge of the Second Coming, and my judgment, which is used only for protection, cannot be wrong because **my judgment** never attacks. 5 Your **judgment** may be so distorted that you believe I was mistaken in choosing you. 6 I assure you this is a mistake of your ego. 7 Do not mistake **your belief that I was mistaken in choosing you** for humility. 8 Your ego is trying to convince you that **the ego** is real and I am not, because if I am real, I am no more real than you are **since I was created like you in the Creation**. 9 That knowledge **that I was created like you in the Creation**, and I assure you that it <is> knowledge, means that Christ has come into your mind and healed **your mind**. p64

Note # 47: Jesus states that we are ready to join him in ending the ego's rule over our split mind. Our ego will tell us that this is not so. The ego will claim that Jesus was different from us and, therefore, we are incapable of following in his footsteps. Jesus states that this is not so. We are the same Child of God and are ready to join with Jesus to remove egoic rule and heal our split minds.

T-4.IV.11. I do not attack your ego. 2 I do work with your higher mind, the home of the Holy Spirit, whether you are asleep or awake, just as your ego does with your lower

mind, which is **the ego's** home. 3 I am your vigilance in this (**working with your higher mind**), because you are too confused to recognize your own hope (**that you to were created like me, a Son of God**). 4 I am not mistaken. 5 Your mind will elect to join with mine, and together we are invincible. 6 You and your brother will yet come together in my name, and your sanity will be restored. 7 I raised the dead by knowing that life is an eternal attribute of everything that the living God created. 8 Why do you believe it is harder for me to inspire the dis-spirited or to stabilize the unstable? 9 I do not believe that there is an order of difficulty in miracles; you do. 10 I have called and you will answer. 11 I understand that miracles are natural, because they are expressions of love. 12 My calling you is as natural as your answer, and as inevitable.

Note # 48: The Higher mind is the home of the Holy Spirit and is based on the idea that you are God's Son, perfect, whole and complete. The lower mind is the home of the ego. This lower mind is fear based. Our egoic belief in self-creation and separation resulted in the apparent splitting of the Sonship's mind into two. This lower egoic mind is the part that claims it does not know who and what you are. Most people currently view their world from the perception of the egoic mind. Jesus has called us to join him in the restoration of the Sonship to right-mindedness.

V. The Ego-Body Illusion

T-4.V.1. All things work together for good. 2 There are no exceptions **that all things work together for good**, except in the ego's judgment. 3 The ego exerts maximal vigilance about what the ego permits into awareness, and this **limitation on what the ego permits into awareness** is not the way a balanced mind holds together. 4 The ego is thrown further off balance because the ego keeps its primary motivation from your awareness, and **the ego** raises control rather than sanity to predominance. 5 The ego has every reason to do this according to the thought system which gave rise to **the ego** and which **the ego** serves. 6 Sane judgment would inevitably judge against the ego, and **therefore sane judgment** must be obliterated by the ego in the interest of the ego's self-preservation.

Note #49: By placing limitations on what the ego permits into the mind's awareness, the ego corrupts the thought system of the whole mind (right-mindedness), thereby producing the insane thought system of the lower mind (wrong-mindedness). Selectivity of focus fragmentizes and corrupts the appearance of Oneness from the mind's awareness. What you are allowed to perceive is based on the ego's purpose. The egoic mind's belief in the separation, not the "power" of the ego, is the catalyst for this insane thought system. The ego itself is powerless to control the mind unless the mind believes that you are not God's Son but rather are a limited ego-body created out of lack. The "authority problem" becomes the foundation to the insane thought system of the split mind. The ego is the servant of this insane thought system since this insane thought system gives rise to the ego. This insane thought system of the split-minded must limit awareness since the awareness of what you truly are (Son of God) would result in the return to sanity and right-mindedness. Control and the seeking of truth is the goal of the ego.

T-4.V.2. A major source of the ego's off-balanced state is its **insane thought system's** lack of discrimination between the body and the Thoughts of God. 2 Thoughts of God are unacceptable to the ego, because **thoughts of God** clearly point to the nonexistence of the ego itself. 3 The ego therefore either distorts **the thoughts of God** or

refuses to accept **the thoughts of God**. 4 **The ego** cannot, however, make **the thoughts of God** cease to be. 5 **The ego** therefore tries to conceal not only "unacceptable" body impulses, but also the Thoughts of God, because both are threatening to **the ego**. 6 Being concerned primarily with the ego's own preservation in the face of threat, the ego perceives **both "unacceptable" body impulses and the Thoughts of God**, as the same. 7 By perceiving **both "unacceptable" body impulses and the Thoughts of God** as the same, the ego attempts to save itself from being swept away, as **the ego** would surely be in the presence of knowledge. p65

Note # 50: The ego is a champion for thoughts that engender fear and the belief that you are incomplete and, thus, need to get something outside yourself. It opposes loving and forgiving thoughts that would promote joining and wholeness. The ego protects your belief in littleness and victimhood.

T-4.V.3. Any thought system that confuses God and the body must be insane. 2 Yet this confusion **between God and the body** is essential to the ego, which judges only in terms of threat or non-threat to itself. 3 In one sense the ego's fear of God is at least logical, since the idea of **God** does dispel the ego. 4 But fear of the body, with which the ego identifies so closely, makes no sense at all.

Note # 51: The ego is a judging machine. Its judgment is based on the criteria of maintaining control over your mind so that your decision-maker will never realize that it has a choice other than the egoic thought system. Fear paralyzes our decision-maker's ability to choose again. This is why ACIM states that we must learn to control our fear.

T-4.V.4. The body is the ego's home by **the ego's** own election. 2 It (**the body**) is the only identification with which the ego feels safe, since the body's vulnerability is **the ego's** own best argument that you cannot be of God. 3 This **belief that you are a body and cannot be of God** is the belief that the ego sponsors eagerly. 4 Yet the ego hates the body, because **the ego** cannot accept **the body** as good enough to be **the ego's** home. 5 Here is where the mind becomes actually dazed. 6 Being told by the ego that **the mind** is really part of the body and that the body is **the mind's** protector, the mind is also told that the body cannot protect **the mind**. 7 Therefore, the mind asks, "Where can I go for protection?" to which the ego replies, "Turn to me." 8 The mind, and not without cause, reminds the ego that **the ego** has itself insisted that **the ego** is identified with the body, so there is no point in turning to < **the ego** > for **the mind's** protection. 9 The ego has no real answer to this because there is none, but **the ego** does have a typical solution. 10 **The ego** obliterates the question from the mind's awareness. 11 Once out of awareness the question can and does produce uneasiness, but **the question** cannot be answered because **the question** cannot be asked.

Note # 52: The ego's goal is to have the mind, which is actually unlimited spirit, identify itself as the body. The ego tells us that the mind is the body-part we call the brain. Since the body is separate, weak and vulnerable the mind must also be the same. Fearful thoughts of death and destruction imprison the mind within the illusion of the body and make the body unquestionably appear real. The egoic thought system claims to be the protector of both the mind and the body.

T-4.V.5. This is the question that *<must>* be asked: "Where can I go for protection?" 2 "Seek and ye shall find" does not mean that you should seek blindly and desperately for something you would not recognize. 3 Meaningful seeking is consciously undertaken, consciously organized and consciously directed. 4 The goal **of meaningful seeking** must be formulated clearly and kept in mind. 5 Learning and wanting to learn are inseparable. 6 You learn best when you believe what you are trying to learn is of value to you. 7 However, not everything you may want to learn has lasting value. 8 Indeed, many of the things you want to learn may be chosen *<because>* their value will not last.

Note # 53: The ego tells us that being a body, we need physical substance or we will die. Life is believed to be a struggle. We believe that we exist in a universe of lack, competition and struggle and ultimately death. Our happiness is secondary to our body's survival. Getting is the goal of relationships. We are told that we need to get love instead of being love. Form, not content, is what the ego values. We are told by the ego that due to our limited nature, we must seek outside ourselves for our sustenance and happiness. The ego tells us that our happiness rests outside of us and is not under our control. Outside things are the source of our happiness. The ego never advises us to seek within our split-mind to rediscover our divine birthright. The ego never wants us to find the truth that we are not of this world, but rather unlimited Spirit.

T-4.V.6. The ego thinks it is an advantage not to commit itself to anything that is eternal, because the eternal must come from God. 2 Eternalness is the one function the ego has tried to develop, but has systematically failed to achieve. 3 The ego compromises with the issue of the eternal, just as **the ego compromises** with all issues touching on the real question ("**Where can I go for protection?**"), in any way. 4 By becoming involved with tangential issues, **the ego** hopes to hide the real question, "**Where can I go for protection?**" and keep **this question** out of mind. p66 5 The ego's characteristic busyness with nonessentials is for precisely **the purpose of keeping this question out of mind.** 6 Preoccupations with problems set up to be incapable of solution are favorite ego devices for impeding learning progress. 7 In all these diversionary tactics, however, the one question that is never asked by those who pursue them is, "What for?" 8 This is the question that *<you>* must learn to ask in connection with everything. 9 What is the purpose? 10 Whatever **the purpose** is, it will direct your efforts automatically. 11 When you make a decision of purpose, then, you have made a decision about your future effort; a decision that will remain in effect unless you change your mind.

Note # 54: Is your purpose to confirm or justify your belief that you are an ego-body, or the Son of God? Is your purpose to be happy or right? The ego wants to be right. God wants you to be happy.

VI. The Rewards of God

T-4.VI.1. The ego does not recognize the real source of "threat," and if you associate yourself with the ego, you do not understand the situation as it is. 2 Only your allegiance to **the ego** gives the ego any power over you. 3 I have spoken of the ego as if **the ego** were a separate thing, acting on its own. 4 This idea that the ego is a separate thing, acting on its own was necessary to persuade you that you cannot dismiss **the ego** lightly, and must realize how much of your thinking is ego-directed. 5 We cannot safely let it go at that, however, or you will regard yourself as necessarily conflicted as long as you are here, or as

long as you believe that you are here. 6 The ego is nothing more than a part of your belief about yourself. 7 Your other life **as a spiritual Son of God** has continued without interruption, and has been and always will be totally unaffected by your attempts to dissociate **yourself by claiming you are an ego-body rather than what you truly are, a spiritual Son of God.**

Note # 55: The ego is defined as nothing more than a part of your belief about yourself. It is not your totality but rather only a small part of your overall beliefs about yourself. It is that part of you that allowed doubt to enter your mind and ask the question “What Am I?” It claims to have lost knowledge of what it was, is and will eternally be. Your Big “S” Self knows very well what you are and continues to be the thought of God or a conduit for love.

T-4.VI.2. In learning to escape from illusions, your debt to your brother is something you must never forget. 2 **Your debt to your brother** is the same debt that you owe to me. 3 Whenever you act egotistically towards another, you are throwing away the graciousness of your indebtedness and the holy perception **your indebtedness** would produce. 4 The term "holy" can be used here because, as you learn how much you are indebted to the whole Sonship, which includes me, you come as close to knowledge as perception can. 5 The gap **between knowledge and perception** is then so small that knowledge can easily flow across **the gap** and obliterate **perception** forever.

Note # 56: Being connected, our salvation rests on all the parts of the Sonship. By giving, we receive and by giving, we know that we have it. Holiness means wholeness.

T-4.VI.3. You have very little trust in me as yet, but **your trust in me** will increase as you turn more and more often to me instead of to your ego for guidance. 2 The results **in turning to me for guidance** will convince you increasingly that this choice **in turning to me** is the only sane **choice** you can make. p67 3 No one who learns from experience that one choice (**choice to side with high-self , right-mindedness, or the spiritual self**), brings peace and joy while another (**choice to side with low-self , wrong –mindedness , or the ego**) brings chaos and disaster needs additional convincing. 4 Learning through rewards is more effective than learning through pain, because pain is an ego illusion, and **an ego illusion** can never induce more than a temporary effect. 5 The rewards of God, however, are immediately recognized as eternal. 6 Since **the recognition of the rewards of God** is made by you and not the ego, the recognition itself establishes that you and your ego cannot be identical. 7 You may believe that you have already accepted this difference **that you and your ego cannot be identical**, but you are by no means convinced as yet **that you and your ego cannot be identical**. 8 The fact that you believe you must escape from the ego shows **that you have not accepted that you and your ego cannot be identical**, but you cannot escape from the ego by humbling **the ego** or controlling **the ego** or punishing **the ego**.

Note # 57: By the results of their advice, you will know which thought system you should follow. When you follow your bliss, you will know you are moving in the right direction. Aligning with your Big “S” Self will bring you joy and peace

The ego is a part of your belief system about you. The ego is not a separate thing acting on its own. The ego is the part of the mind that believes your existence rests on or is defined by separateness from your Source. All and any power that the ego seems to have

has been given to the ego by the mind's belief that you are not who you are. The ego claims self-creation and that you are not God's Son, perfect, whole, complete, eternal, and changeless. Change your belief in what you are from a body to unlimited spirit and the ego dissolves into the nothingness from which the ego arose, which is your split mind's insane belief in the fantasy that it could be something it is not.

T-4.VI.4. The ego and the spirit do not know each other. 2 The separated mind cannot maintain the separation except by dissociating.3 Having done this **dissociating, the separated mind** denies all truly natural impulses, not because the ego is a separate thing, but because you want to believe that <you> are **a separate thing**. 4 The ego is a device for maintaining this belief **that you are a separate thing**, but it is still only your decision of **your mind** to use the device **of the ego** that enables **the ego to be used for maintaining your belief that you are a separate thing** to endure **against God's Will**.

Note # 58: Due to the belief in the separation, the mind made the ego as part of an elaborate plan to confirm its separation from God. This "plan" involves the idea of lack and fear, which are unknown to the Mind of God since God is Love. The mind made the ego to confirm that the mind was something other than God. It is only from the wrong-mindedness of your mind that the ego exists. Since it was your choice to believe in the separation, the ego becomes part of your own provisional reality. The ego, like all parts of your deluded world of provisional reality is perceived as very real to your split-mind, but it is nonexistent in the mind of God. Your illusion of provisional reality is miscreated and opposite to God's will. It cannot be real. In your upside down, insane thought system, your mind made the ego exist only to confirm your belief that you are something that you are not.

T-4.VI.5. How can you teach someone the value of something he has deliberately thrown away? 2 He must have thrown it away because he did not value it. 3 You can only show him how miserable he is without **what he has deliberately thrown away**, and slowly bring **what he has deliberately thrown away** nearer so he can learn how his misery lessens as he approaches **what he has deliberately thrown away**. 4 This teaches him to associate his misery with the absence **of what he has deliberately thrown away**, and the opposite of misery with its presence. 5 **What he has deliberately thrown away** gradually becomes desirable as he changes his mind about **the worth of what he had deliberately thrown away**. 6 I am teaching you to associate misery with the ego and joy with the spirit. 7 You have taught yourself the opposite, **which is to associate misery with the spirit and joy with the ego**. 8 You are still free to choose, but can you really want the rewards of the ego in the presence of the rewards of God?

Note # 59: When we remember the joy and peace associated with being God's Son, we will once again value and want to reclaim our divine inheritance.

T-4.VI.6. My trust in you is greater than your **trust** in me at the moment, but it will not always be that way. 2 Your mission is very simple. 3 You are asked to live so as to demonstrate that you are not an ego, and I do not choose God's channels wrongly. 4 The Holy One shares my trust, and accepts my Atonement decisions because my will is never out of accord with His **Will**. 5 I have said before that I am in charge of the Atonement. 6 **I am in charge of the Atonement** only because I completed my part in **the Atonement** as a

man, and can now complete **the Atonement** through others. 7 My chosen channels cannot fail, because I will lend **my chosen channels** my strength as long as theirs is wanting. p68

Note # 60: Jesus states that we have been selected to demonstrate to our brothers that we are not ego-bodies. By our doing this, others will also learn to accept the truth.

T-4.VI.7. I will go with you to the Holy One, and through my perception He can bridge the little gap. 2 Your gratitude to your brother is the only gift I want. 3 I will bring **your gratitude of your brother** to God for you, knowing that to know your brother <is> to know God. 4 If you are grateful to your brother, you are grateful to God for what **God** created. 5 Through your gratitude you come to know your brother, and one moment of real recognition makes everyone your brother because each of them is of your Father. 6 Love does not conquer all things, but **love** does set all things right. 7 Because you are the Kingdom of God I can lead you back to your own creations. 8 You do not recognize **your own creations** now, but what has been dissociated is still there.

Note # 61: Our creations are any loving or forgiving thoughts. These are the things that are real and they are kept safe awaiting the Sonship's return to knowledge. We and our brothers are one and the Father is us. God is Cause and We are His Effect. Cause and Effect cannot be separate. The combined They are the indivisible Oneness of Everything. We are that One Self.

T-4.VI.8. As you come closer to a brother you approach me, and as you withdraw from **a brother** I become distant to you. 2 Salvation is a collaborative venture. 3 **Salvation** cannot be undertaken successfully by those who disengage themselves from the Sonship, because they **who disengage themselves from the Sonship** are disengaging themselves from me. 4 God will come to you only as you will give Him to your brothers. 5 Learn first of **your brother** and you will be ready to hear God. 6 That is because the function of love is one.

Note # 62: Oneness is a state in which you are perfect, whole, and complete. Your wholeness and completeness make you part of your brother, who like you, is part of God. God's creations are an extension of the Father and are one with the Father. Because to give is to receive, you cannot withhold the Oneness of Everything and exclude anyone. To exclude someone is to deny wholeness to all. Love is unconditional.

VII. Creation and Communication

T-4.VII.1. It is clear that while the content of any particular ego illusion does not matter, **the correction of any particular ego illusion** is more helpful in a specific context. 2 Ego illusions are quite specific, although the mind is naturally abstract. 3 Part of the mind becomes concrete, however, when the mind splits. 4 The concrete part believes in the ego, because the ego depends on the concrete. 5 The ego is the part of the mind that believes your existence is defined by separation.

Note # 63: To the split mind, there appears to be degrees of difficulty. Although one illusion is no more difficult to correct than any other illusion since all are equally false, it may assist the learning process by correcting each illusion independently. This allows for gradual learning and does not increase fear in the learner. If all illusions were brought

before truth at one time, this shattering of the entire belief system of deluded mind could induce panic. The Holy Spirit will not do anything that would increase fear in the student. The Holy Spirit is patient and allows each person to baby-step their way back to truth. The concrete mind learns by going from specific example to the general concept. The abstract mind just needs the general concept and knows it applies to all related forms.

Ego is defined as the part of the mind that believes your existence is defined by separation. Prior to the separation, it did not exist. Before the separation, there were no specific items since everything was all and nothingness was unknown. Thus, the natural state of mind was abstract since it was undifferentiated. During the separation, the mind split from an abstract Oneness into the High Self, which maintained its oneness (Son of God) and the lower self (egoic part of mind) that defined itself as separate from its Cause. The lower mind (wrong-mindedness) made up its' own dream world based on the egoic thought system in an attempt to make the separation appear real. The ego's thought system defines everything as specific (concrete) individual things. Form helps define the part as separate and different from the whole. Oneness does not exist in egoic thinking because everything must lack something. The ego defines itself by what it is not. The ego needs darkness to know the light. The Mind of God is abstract and only knows Light. Unlike the ego, It does not require contrast or comparison. In the Mind of God, Light is everything and darkness is nothing and, therefore, does not exist.

(Also, see note 18 above about the ego.)

T-4.VII.2. Everything the ego perceives is a separate whole, without the relationships that imply being. 2 The ego is thus against communication, except insofar as **communication** is utilized to establish separateness rather than to abolish **separateness**. 3 The communication system of the ego is based on **the ego's** own thought system, as is everything else the it dictates **is based on the ego's own thought system of separation**. 4 **The ego's** communication is controlled by **the ego's** need to protect itself, and **the ego** will disrupt communication when **the ego** experiences threat. 5 This disruption **in communication** is a reaction to a specific person or persons. 6 The specificity of the ego's thinking, then, results in spurious generalization which is really not abstract at all. 7 **The ego** merely responds in certain specific ways to everything **the ego** perceives as related.

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Note # 64: The ego is interested in maintaining control by keeping the decision-maker unaware of its power to choose again. If the egoic communication does not appear to increase control over the mind, the ego will break off communication. The ego is not interested in happiness or truth; instead it demands that it be right.

The ego's thought system utilizes inductive reasoning. Inductive reasoning takes specific examples and draws general conclusions. Inductive reasoning requires specific (separate) items in order to be able to work. Prior to the separation, inductive reasoning did not exist since there was just oneness and, therefore, nothing to compare or judge against. There was just BEING. With the concept of separation, we have separate items so now the ego perceives a difference between HAVING and BEING. When there was just a Oneness, there was nothing to get since oneness was everything. With separate items, if you have something, I do not have it. Now I lack something. Form cannot be shared, so the previous owner must be asked to sacrifice. Because form cannot be shared, the ego is determined to imprison the mind in a body. Thoughts can be share and each party is strengthened.

T-4.VII.3. In contrast, spirit reacts in the same way to everything **spirit** knows is true, and does not respond at all to anything else. 2 Nor does **spirit** make any attempt to establish what is true. 3 **Spirit** knows that what is true is everything that God created. 4 **Spirit** is in complete and direct communication with every aspect of creation, because **Spirit** is in complete and direct communication with its Creator. 5 **Spirit's** communication **with its Creator** is the Will of God. 6 Creation and communication are synonymous. 7 God created every mind by communicating His Mind to it, thus establishing **every mind** forever as a channel for the reception of His Mind and **His** Will. 8 Since only beings of a like order can truly communicate, **God's** creations naturally communicate with Him and like Him. 9 This communication is perfectly abstract, since **this communication's** quality is universal in application and not subject to any judgment, any exception or any alteration. 10 God created you by **this communication** and for **this communication**. 11 The mind can distort **this communication's** function, but **the mind** cannot endow itself with functions **the mind** was not given. 12 That is why the mind cannot totally lose the ability to communicate, even though **the mind** may refuse to utilize **this ability to communicate** on behalf of being.

Note # 65: The Mind of God does not utilize inductive reasoning for everything has universal application. This is how God created since our mind is an extension of Our Father's Mind. This Oneness allows complete and direct communication since all are one in Being. There is no separation or distinction since there is nothing to judge against. Creation and communication are synonymous and we are invested by God's Mind to co-create like our Father.

T-4.VII.4. Existence as well as being rest on communication. 2 Existence, however, is specific in how, what and with whom communication is judged to be worth undertaking. 3 Being is completely without these distinctions. **(The distinctions are in how, what and with whom communication is judged to be worth undertaking.)** 4 **Being** is a state in which the mind is in communication with everything that is real. 5 To whatever extent you permit this state **of Being** to be curtailed you are limiting your sense of your own reality, which becomes total only by recognizing all reality in the glorious context of its real relationship to you. 6 This is your reality. 7 Do not desecrate it, **(your true state of reality which is state of Being)**, or recoil from it. **(Your true state of reality which is state of Being)** 8 It, **(your true state of reality which is state of Being)** is your real home, your real temple and your real Self.

Note # 66: Love allows all. It does not judge or exclude. This is "Being". Existence is more synonymous to egoic miscreation. It limits, judges and excludes. Thus, it is fear based. Being is our true reality. Existence is our "provisional reality". Our provisional reality is based on lack and exclusion. We judge (perceive) that we are missing something since we believe we come from lack. Having is no longer Being in our illusory world of provisional reality. We "EXIST" rather than just allowing to "BE" since we judge what is worthy to communicate with. Due to our judgment that we are not whole, we have limited our ability to just "BE."

T-4.VII.5. God, Who encompasses all being, created beings who have everything individually, but who want to share it **(everything)** to increase their joy. 2 Nothing real can

be increased except by sharing. 3 That is why God created you. 4 Divine Abstraction takes joy in sharing. 5 That (**sharing**) is what creation means. 6 "How," "what" and "to whom" are irrelevant, because real creation gives everything, since **creation** can create only like itself. 7 Remember that in the Kingdom there is no difference between <having> and <being,> as there is in existence. 8 In the state of being the mind gives everything always.

Note # 67: What is real are thoughts, not form. Content, not the temporary form it may appear as, is what is shared. Loving thoughts can be shared and extended. Love allows and does not judge or attack.

Perhaps the closest model for how the Mind of God appears to function would be to consider its holographic nature. All parts contain the whole and the whole is contained in each part. A part cannot be separated from the whole, but if it were the part would remain in constant and instant communication with all other parts. To affect any part affects all part simultaneously.

T-4.VII.6. The Bible repeatedly states that you should praise God. 2 This hardly means that you should tell **God** how wonderful He is. 3 **God has** no ego with which to accept such praise, and **God has** no perception with which to judge **such praise**. p70 4 But unless you take your part in the creation, **God's** joy is not complete because your **joy** is incomplete. 5 And this (**your part in the creation**) **God** does know. 6 **God** knows it (**your part in the creation**) in His Own Being and **God knows the** experience of His Son's experience. 7 The constant going out of **God's** Love is blocked when **God's** channels are closed, and **God** is lonely when the minds **God** created do not communicate fully with Him.

Note # 68: Being holographic in nature, God is aware when the hologram is extended by any of its "parts" own creative thoughts. When we miscreate, we fail to extend the message throughout the hologram. The creative process shares and communicates its extension with all. The Oneness extends Itself yet remains whole, perfect and complete.

T-4.VII.7. God has kept your Kingdom for you, but **God** cannot share His joy with you until you know **your Kingdom** with your whole mind. 2 Revelation is not enough, because **revelation** is only communication <from> God. 3 God does not need revelation returned to Him, which would clearly be impossible, but He does want **revelation** brought to others. 4 **Bringing revelations to others** cannot be done with the actual revelation; **since revelation's** content cannot be expressed, because **revelation's content** is intensely personal to the mind that receives **the revelation**. 5 **Revelation** can, however, be returned by that mind to other minds, through the attitudes the knowledge from the revelation brings.

Note # 69: To know and not to act according to that knowing is to not know. If we are love, we will have that attitude of love extended to all. There can be no exceptions. To teach love, you must be love. To teach peace, you must be peace. You demonstrate what you value by what you are. You must talk your talk. By their actions you will know them and you will know yourself.

T-4.VII.8. God is praised whenever any mind learns to be wholly helpful. 2 **Being wholly helpful** is impossible without being wholly harmless, because the two beliefs must

coexist. 3 The truly helpful are invulnerable, because **the truly helpful** are not protecting their egos and so nothing can hurt **the truly helpful**. 4 Their helpfulness is their praise of God, and **God** will return their praise of Him because **the truly helpful** are like Him, and they can rejoice together. 5 God goes out to **the truly helpful** and through **the truly helpful**, and there is great joy throughout the Kingdom. 6 Every mind that is changed adds to this joy with its individual willingness to share in **this joy of the Kingdom**. 7 The truly helpful are God's miracle workers, whom I direct until we are all united in the joy of the Kingdom. 8 I will direct you to wherever you can be truly helpful, and to whoever can follow my guidance through you. p71

Note # 70: Jesus will direct those who accept his call to where they can be most helpful in the Sonship's return to knowledge. To be wholly helpful, you must be wholly harmless. In your invulnerability lies your strength to aid your brother.

Definition: BEING is the state in which mind is in communication with everything that is real.

Definition: EXISTENCE is the state in which mind communicates with only those who it, the ego controlled mind, judges to be worthy of communication.

BEING does not equal EXISTENCE. BEING only knows reality. EXISTENCE judges based on separation. EXISTENCE only "lives" in your own mind's "provisional reality".