

Chapter 3

The Innocent Perception

Christians have tended to focus wrongly upon the crucifixion rather than the Resurrection. God would not punish one son because of His anger toward another. The Resurrection proves the ego's beliefs are false. The most that can be learned of the crucifixion is the ego's fear of God and desire to kill God.

Biblical statements can make God appear human. "Vengeance is Mine" means, "Let me handle all your grievances." Adam ostracized himself from the Garden of Eden because of his own judgments, and he is always welcome to return. How he would hereafter work "by the sweat of his brow" and how women "would suffer in childbirth" were merely predictions of living in the ego's world.

God never asks sacrifice of any kind. The "lion lying with the lamb" emphasizes that innocence and strength go together. The Atonement can only occur when everyone sees only innocence in everyone else. **You must realize that you now don't know anything, including who you are.** Just a single statement can throw you into anxiety, depression, and fear. Selfishness now prompts even your loving acts. This makes peace impossible.

The only solution is to restore your mind to God, step-by-step as guided by the Holy Spirit.

All perception maintains the stability of the unreal world. Perceptions are filled with questions and judgments. But knowledge is timeless, unchanging, and has no questions. It comes from the altar of God and not the five senses. It comes as the result of Revelation. Right-mindedness should not be confused with the knowing mind, because it is applicable only to right perception. Knowledge cannot be perceived. Miracle-mindedness is the recognition of your misperceptions. **The mind returns to its proper function only when it wills to know.** All perception involves some misuse of the mind because it assumes separation.

If you knew your real strength, you would never be angry. The ego can be upgraded to realize that there is another way of seeing things, and to recognize that now you perceive everything lovelessly. Consciousness has become the domain of the ego. This makes you a perceiver rather than a

creator. The ego gives you a perception of yourself that has every reason to be afraid.

The ability to perceive made the body possible, because you must perceive something and with something. When you identify with your body, it makes it almost impossible for spirit to reach you because It cannot be reconciled with this loss of power. How did Jesus do it? He corrected error from the bottom up, which means that He did not analyze his perceptions to gain knowledge. Rather, he demonstrated both the powerlessness of the body and the power of the mind. Jesus unified his will with the will of God. He gave His mind over to the Holy Spirit rather than to the ego.

Prayer is the medium for miracles. And the only meaningful prayer is for forgiveness. Forgiveness is the healing of the perception of separation. Only then can you accept that you are a lovable child of God, a miracle in your own right.

Perception forces continual organizing, comparisons, and accepting or rejecting as worthy or bad, etc. Perception cannot conceive your true power and your true worth to God. Constant judgment makes life intolerable and your body tied. Some perceptions are so intolerable that you deny or hide them where they gain more power, and may come up in your nightmares. Even when your mind creates something ingeniously it is acknowledging a need or lack that does not exist.

Peace can only come from lack of judgment.

The Authority Problem is the root of all evil. You did not create yourself anonymously and you do not have to prove your worthiness to yourself. Your desire to reject is behind your feelings of rejection. Wishes and fantasies are not the same as "willing." Only the latter recognizes the power of your mind. And every thought system, even those created out of lies has great power. This how the "devil" was created.

You must understand that all of your misery is due to the paranoia of your ego. You have to forego your ego in order to experience the joy of the spirit flowing through you because the two are incompatible. The ego numbs you to life, joy, and love. All judgment hurts you because it places your belief in the unreal. And, the strain of constant judgment is virtually intolerable.

Focus upon that part of your mind that is still in communication with God. Having, being and lovingly sharing is what existence is all about. Be open

now to receiving a Revelation from God that you might share with others through the change in your attitudes that this will bring.

Your ego was created by the frightened mind of an infant. Rise above it by changing your mind now! What are you waiting for? Increase, by this, the joy of everyone around you and of those who are guided to you. Jesus cannot make the right choice for you, but can help you to make it. "Many are called but few are chosen" should be, "All are called but few choose to listen." Prayer opens the mind to listening. And "nothing can prevail against a Son of God who commends his spirit into the Hands of his Father."

