

FUNERALS MEAN...THAT SOMETHING WASN'T CORRECTED

“the wages of sin is death,” the result of attempting to accomplish something and become something in your own right without God being in the picture introduces sin, disease and death into your experience. The divorce from your Father, the separation from your Father brings not only fear and guilt, but sin, sickness and death into the picture.

So, when I said last week, as the Course expressed it, sin doesn't exist and punishment of sin is what seems to cause it to exist or makes it easy for you to believe that it exists as something actual, it can be very easy for the ego to suggest to you that you have just heard from a holy book or a holy teacher that sin does not exist and punishment cannot secure it and that if sin does not exist punishment is unnecessary. And one must be very careful, because sin may not exist as an actuality but it seems to exist as a belief that you're validating. And that is a mistake. And just because sin isn't real and therefore, there's nothing to punish, it doesn't mean that the mistake doesn't need to be corrected.

As it was pointed out last time, mistakes are there to be corrected, mistakes are there for correction. Sin can't be corrected, but sin is a mistake and the mistake can be corrected, therefore, one must get busy correcting the mistake!

Now, sin may not be real, your attempt to determine what everything is without sharing the Father's Perspective not only causes the Kingdom of Heaven to begin to appear to be a physical world and universe that started with a “big bang” but it's also a world and universe in which sin, disease and death occur. And everyone who has gone to a funeral recently didn't have a good time. And the fact that a funeral was there to go to, means that something wasn't corrected! Because for life, truth and love, the constituting nature of the Kingdom of Heaven to be experienced as sin, sickness and death, pain, suffering and so on, that isn't anything to be complacent about.

That's nothing to say that, “Well, sin isn't real and therefore there is no punishment . . . Hell, maybe there isn't punishment for sins.” But there is suffering from the misunderstanding of what you're experiencing. You are experiencing the Kingdom of Heaven and you are a Son or Daughter of God experiencing It. Anything else that you are seeing or believing is a mistake. It's a misperception, and the misperception needs to be corrected.

And when the misperception is corrected, when you engage in the two-step, when you refer to the Father to find out what the truth is and then defer to the Father as to what the truth is you will find a physical world and universe transforming in front of your eyes, as the scales fall from your eyes, as the misperceptions fall away from your vision, and you will see the Kingdom of Heaven. And there will be no funeral you went to last week. And there will never be a funeral to go to again. You see?

You must be careful, because the ego would have you “learn” that sin is unreal and therefore, there can be no real punishment for it, that sin and punishment work together to apparently establish the reality of something that doesn’t exist. And you need escape from it.

And so you do need to be diligent. But why not be? Why not go through your day paying attention so that when you feel that something is getting in your way, getting in the way of something important that has to do with the establishment of your credibility, you can say, “Whoa,” you see the red flag going up and you say, “Uh-uh, I’m going to purposely willingly fail at this right now, because whatever excellence might come through me, will only come through me when I become silent and curious and attentive where inspiration dawns.”

And you can do that all day long. And unless you want to wait for a crisis to come along to be the discipline you need to actually do that, you can do it voluntarily without the stress of the crisis even though you will have to engage in the labor of conscious self-discipline so that you say, “No! I refuse to take another step in the direction of accomplishing something all by myself, with an addiction promoting it, that doesn’t actually allow me to experience the inspiration necessary to the fulfillment I know it’s my Birthright to be experiencing, in which I know is present to be experienced. So I’m going to stop doing what blocks it, even though what I’m stopping is what I thought was going to create it. Very important!

Now I know this makes sense in a way it’s utterly uncomplicated. But I’ve got to come back to this: You’ve been taught to value your capacity to be an independent creator through the use of your mind, which most of you think is somewhere in your skull. And so to abandon the very things that you have been taught will, through your careful practice of them, secure your success and even your wholeness—completeness, when you learn and you are willing to accept the fact that it won’t and it hasn’t, the light can

dawn in you that inspires you to let go, that inspires you to listen more than speak, to be receptive rather than assertive.

Right now Paul is being receptive and he is engaged in activity. And although you cannot see it tonight his hands are moving, his body is moving and as you know his lips are moving. But what's happening is not a calculated action meant to impress anyone with Paul's personal capacity, because Paul isn't on his mind, being in the Movement is. And when one is being in the Movement, one's being is meaningful, but it isn't capable of an egotistical self-appreciation.

If you want meaningful fulfillment, yield to it, rather than trying to create it. And for all practical purposes be willing to yield to it right in the arena where you have been attempting to create it yourself. You say, "What is the truth here? Aside from the way I've been looking at it, what is the truth here? Is this needed or not? Is that needed or not? Is this appropriate or not?"

Big question: "How does this fit into a larger picture? How does this fit into the context of the Kingdom of Heaven and the blessing of everything in It?"

Because every single thing in the Kingdom of Heaven blesses every single other thing in the Kingdom of Heaven. You see?

So I'm encouraging you tonight to not be afraid to fail, and in fact to invite failure, to engage in it so that you can be in that place where the dawning of inspiration can occur because you're not introducing any static where it will appear. But at the same time, let's not be so impractical about the nonexistence of sin and therefore, the fact that punishment is meaningless. Let's not use that as a means of avoiding the correction that is manifesting as you in a lifetime with birth and a death and sin, disease and death . . . yes? Let's get down to the business of having the correction.

How do you do that? You've got to do the two-step. You've got to shut up, which means silence your will, silence your intensity, silence the intent you have arrived at through your own thinking so that you might listen and hear what it is in you specifically that needs to be abandoned. "What is the belief? What is the intent behind the thought that's governing me?" You see? Do it!

It's the way out of sin, disease and death. It's the means of Awakening. It will take diligence. It will be laborious whether crisis is the discipline needed or that you've waited for, or whether it's the willing abandonment of your

attempt to do it all by yourself, whatever it might be. It's going to take effort. But it's going to remove the futility that you've been experiencing. And I mean it! It will remove the futility of failing but not giving up, and therefore not having.

Again, . . . simplicity. I love you all. And I look forward to being with you next time.

~excerpt from ACIM Study Group with Raj/Jesus
Conducted by the Northwest Foundation for ACIM

www.nwffacim.wordpress.com

FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/183859725130360/>

All of the activities of the Northwest Foundation for "A Course In Miracles" are provided without charge or obligation. This is possible because of thoughtfulness, love extended without conditions. Such is the nature of Gift. As a result these materials are available to you, because someone like you has already gifted you with them. And, at Raj's instruction, these materials will never be sold. If you would like to add your thoughtfulness and love, to gift others with the availability of these materials, please contact

www.nwffacim.org

Now I am present with and available to every single one of you, everyone at every moment. And so it is my intent in being with groups of people like this to make this fact known and by Paul's presence and demeanor also convey the fact that my being available doesn't require of anyone any special talent, because Paul is about as regular as anyone else on this planet and has no "special" talent in order to hear me. Does that clarify that for you?

For those of you who are students of A Course In Miracles, I will take this opportunity to point out that my time spent with Helen Schucman was also not a special instance. And although there have been some expressions of the fact, or the idea-not the fact-the idea that everyone else can't expect the same sort of relationship with me or with Guidance that she experienced, is untrue. It is an attempt to elevate her, and to elevate the Course into a false position of religious respect, whether it is stated that way or not.