

JESUS: YOU CANNOT ASK WHAT IS "A COURSE IN MIRACLES" WITHOUT ASKING "WHAT IS "A COURSE IN MIRACLES AND ME"?

Let us start with the question: "What is "A Course In Miracles?" And remember that you cannot ask what it is without asking: "What is A Course In Miracles and me?" Because without you, there is no "Course In Miracles." And without you, there are no miracles. This is very important, because it becomes very easy to think of the Course as something separate from you, which you can study and learn. That is your conditioning. Especially, the use of the term "course," seems to specifically apply to an educational process, which you have always experienced as learning—the taking in of something separate and different from you. .

I'm going to give you a different picture. You and the Course are like a strip tease dancer, who comes out on the stage surrounded with multicolored balloons with nothing on underneath. The dancer usually has somewhere on her hand a little thorn or prick that she can pop the balloons with. But in this case, it is the Course that is the prick—the trigger if you will—that pops the balloons of your ego; that obscures who you Really Are. .

And you know what? It does it when you aren't looking. It does it when you least expect it. "The bridegroom cometh when ye think not." And both ways that that sentence can be interpreted are correct. The Christ of you penetrates your limited perception when you least expect it. And also when ye think not—when you are not thinking. .

You will not think, or understand your way into the Kingdom of Heaven. You will feel your way into the Kingdom of Heaven. And I'm not talking about emotions, I'm talking about feelings. Feelings are Soul, with a capital "S"; sensing, Soul sensing. Sensing everything that you are experiencing—from your Soul. Emotions are ego reactions. They are the egos equivalent of feelings. And you know what they are reactions to? They are reactions to Reality, when it is inconsistent with the ego's definition of how a thing ought to be, or what a thing is. .

Miracles are not controlled by your thinking, nor by your understanding. I will tell you something: A MIRACLE happens and you understand. You do not understand and then experience a miracle. And a miracle happens

when you are undefended. And so, this illustrates a most important point—thinking blocks miracles. In fact, thinking as you employ it, constitutes your defense against the conscious experience of Reality. .

Now, I said thinking as you employ it. You employ it to attempt to get to an understanding of something. But, if you are willing, if you are truly willing to do what the Course says, and look at a thing and say, “What I see, does not mean anything.” If you are willing to set aside any meaning that you have given to it, you provide the opportunity for the experience of what it Divinely is to register with you. And then you will spontaneously and appropriately employ your thinking, to give a voice to what you have found yourself knowing—what you have found yourself understanding. But the understanding comes always as a revelation. And revelation occurs when ye think not.

Now, let’s be wise, I’m not saying for all of you to leave and be thoughtless. Until you’ve learned how to hear by virtue of listening, you had better think, because your current thinking constitutes your current common sense and without it, you would be behaving in a most unintelligent manner.

The point is, as frequently as you can, everyday, listen. Be willing to set aside your best judgments and your conditionings, and even your most spiritual concepts about how a thing ought to be. And ask God, “What is your point of view of this? What is really going on here?” The more you do this, the more you will hear experientially what you need to know. Then, your thinking and your expression will express what you find yourself knowing, and you will be a transformational Presence in your world, without even trying..

The Bible relates my healing of a blind man, who then went and showed everyone that he could see. And the priests asked, “How did this happen?” He said, “I don’t know. All I know is that whereas before I was blind, but now I can see.” This is the way the Course works. Don’t read it as though it is going to give you an understanding that will give you better control in your world, where you can be a conscious healer, where you are giving conscious direction to your Awakening, or to someone else’s Awakening. Read the Course and let it change you. .

Also, as you go through this conference, I encourage each of you to pretend that you brought a relative with you, who won't have anything to do with the Course, but somehow you managed to get them to come with you and they're sitting beside you. If that really happened, you would listen to everything that was said with an ear to how this individual would be hearing it. You would not slip into your comfortable, accumulated understandings of the Course. You would sort of simply flow unconsciously with the wonderful truths, and even the stimulating ideas that are expressed. .

Don't underestimate the value of being thrown off balance, because indeed, it is your ego that gets thrown off balance. And when it gets thrown off balance, your Divinity has the opportunity to register with you, because your ego's defense is weak at that moment. .

that is not the same as the Father's Knowing of Himself in that thing, you create a sense of fantasy of separation from the Father, and a joining with the one that you have this mutual agreement with. (or of a part of the Kingdom of HeavenNow, what is this "ancient journey" that you have come to the end of without realizing it? It is the end of the journey of thinking, without asking God what is going on. You call it being an independent thinker. But I want to point out something to you. You cannot be an independent thinker alone and lose the conscious experience of the Kingdom of Heaven. You must join with someone else who also has chosen to be an independent thinker. Except it's a little bit of a farce, because the two of you must agree on your independent thinking. And in agreeing to a definition of the Kingdom of Heaven .

Now, why are you at the end of an "ancient journey" without realizing that you are at the end of it? Because you never ever left the Kingdom of Heaven. And you never stopped being the direct expression of God, even though you joined with another in a false definition of it all and seemed to lose the conscious experience of it. It is sort of satisfying to think that maybe you are at the end of an "ancient journey", like finally, maybe you've arrived.

But the reason you are at the end of an "ancient journey" is, because you never went on an "ancient journey." And at this moment and at every single moment of consciousness that you have experienced, you have been smack dab in the middle of the Kingdom of Heaven. And you have

been the Sons and Daughters of God, nothing less and nothing more. It is imperative that you begin to understand, that not only are you already at the destination you feel you have to work so hard to get to, but you never left. You are all the beloved Sons and Daughters of God, in whom God is well pleased, even if you are not particularly pleased with the dreams you have created for yourself in your exploration of independence. .

Most of you here, are feeling really good about the fact that for three and a half days you are going to be with people who think like you think. Well, what about the poor souls back at work, or in the neighborhood? And are any of you really different from them? And might not your tendency to feel good because you are with like minded people mean, that contrary to your expression of intent for being here, it might be nice not to have to be so conscious for a few days; not be in the place where you would have to be as active an expression of love; not be where anybody is going to make waves. .

I encourage all of you to be willing to abandon what you have termed security. Because again, your demand for security is the means you see, or which your ego sees, as the way not to have to be conscious. And waking up is about being conscious—in your Right Mind—experiencing your birthright as the infinite expression of the Mind that God Is, the infinite intelligence that God Is. .

And when the Christ of you recognizes the Truth, because ego thinking hasn't gotten in the way, you are having an experience of being at one with the Father when He experiences everything that He has made. Except we're going to change that slightly—everything that He is making. And behold, it is very good. Behold, it is verily God, Himself. That statement is a statement of self-recognition. It is a statement of the operation of the infinite Mind of God. God Moves and God sees the Movement and recognizes Himself in It. And the Movement is a Movement of Intelligence, what you can best comprehend as the Movement of Mind. And the Mind that Moves and sees It's Movement and recognizes Itself in It, experiences Itself as tangibility and visibility, but no materiality associated with it. This is what it is your birthright to be experiencing at this moment, and throughout the weekend, and when you go home. .

To look at a thing and discover the materiality of it, the non-mental, non-idealistic nature of it disappearing, so that everything begins to appear to you in fairer form, so that you are not seeing through a glass so darkly; this is the way you get off the wheel of history; this is the way you embody the fact that the “ancient journey” is over. And it is the way you discover the fact that you never went on it, as a fact..

Now, it’s a simple fact that if you dare to listen, you must listen for something. And the very act of listening is the act of abdicating separateness. It is the way in which you join. .

And your ego will come in with plenty of arguments to tell you “this cannot possibly be the Voice for Truth. This can’t be the Holy Spirit. This can’t be the Christ. This can’t be your Higher Self. This is just you fooling yourself.” And you must weigh this, this is where the reality, the transformational aspects, the miracle of The Course In Miracles comes into play. Because at the bottom line, the value of the Course is there to help you arrive at such a conviction in the Allness of God, and of your fundamental Divinity, that you are willing to abandon your confidences in what you believe, and lean into—let go into—the underlying everlasting arms of the Father. Yield up your will, for the Will of the Father, which is your true will. .

This is what happened when each of you picked up the Course for the first time, or the second time, or the tenth time. Just remember, you don’t want to get the Course under your belt in a conceptual way. You want to relate to it as though it has something for you at the moment you open it, that may have nothing to do with anything you’ve ever seen in the Course before. Read it with fresh eyes. Read it with lack of confidence. Read it with vulnerability. In other words, read it as though you are really who you Are, instead of “a student of the Course.” Because the simple fact is, that until you are awake, you are experiencing a certain amount of misery and limitation and lack, and that is what makes you reach. It is what causes you to reach genuinely, rather than with a vested interest to get support for your private sense of what is right. .

Again, the reason the Course is there for you to read, is because aside from your intellect, it is able to trigger your Awakening, pop your balloons, leave you naked in front of everyone else, so that you might have the opportunity to hear everyone gasp; not because of how

ridiculous you look, but because of how meaningful the Presence is that is there that had been covered up by all of the confidences of your ego. I cannot say that will give you something to think about, but be with it, abide with it, what we have considered together this morning. And let it move you; let it mature you.

And know that at any time that any of you wish to know the Truth, it is present with you; I am present with you; the Holy spirit is present with you; the Father is present with you. And many that you cannot imagine stand in support of you and will respond. And know something else, that you are waking up from a short dream right in the middle of the Kingdom of Heaven. In other words, you're already there. All that is required now, is a simple element of curiosity—not a long process of redemption.

~excerpt from ACIM Conference with Raj/Jesus
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