Raj/ACIM Study Group - March 4, 2006

A Course In Miracles (reference pages)
Chapter 11 – GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION
Section – THE VISION OF CHRIST
Sparkly Book – p.271 / JCIM – p.114
Chapter 12 – THE HOLY SPIRIT'S CURRICULUM
First Edition – p. 213 / Second Edition – p. 229

THIS IS A ROUGH TRANSCRIPT. THIS COPY IS NOT IN ITS FINAL FORM AND WILL BE UPDATED

RAJ: Good evening. And welcome to everyone who is joining us on the Internet.

I'm going to jump right in with a question. Where do you go to get information about how you are? The simple fact is that few of you go to the right spot. Where you do go is to your body. "How am I today? Any aches or pains? Anything acting up?" And you give yourself a little physical exam in order to find out how you are. And how many of you have felt stuck this week with the information you got when you went to that source?

Before I continue I want to point out something else. You tend to give your body a personality, or the parts of your body a personality. Generally speaking, you might find yourself saying, "Oh, I'm afraid my body is giving up on me." Or if you have a rash, you say, "My, that's a very angry rash," as though your body is expressing emotion, capable of feeling emotion and expressing it on itself. And when you do that, you make it sound as though your body "in and of itself" is something intelligent, just like you're intelligent. This other thing called your body is intelligent. And it can, oh, how many of you said, "My stomach is objecting to the meal I just ate"? You see? And you create a picture in your mind of your body having a life and a mind of its own, capable of making decisions and coming to conclusions, and acting out its feelings. This is not wise, because you have everything 180 degrees out of sync.

The fact is, as I've said before, your body is the visibility and tangibility of your Individuality. Your individuality, for lack of better words, is mental, is Mind. Your body reflects whatever word you're giving. It's always been this way. And so you give a word, even before you have a physical complaint.

Oh, there's another word: complaint. "My body has a complaint. It's complaining." You see? I mean, you're very familiar with these words that seem to portray it as having a life of its own.

But before your body offers a complaint, you have a mindset. Your mindset might be one of anger. Your mindset might be one of jealousy. It might be one of self-righteousness. It might be one of offense. And in that hurt mental frame of mind, what are you doing? You're sending out messages which, because the body is the visibility and tangibility of your Individuality, will reflect back to you exactly what you are embodying by means of the words you are choosing to use in your mind and the conceptualizations you have built in your mind.

And then, you stupidly say, "Why, I don't know what happened but all of a sudden my body is falling apart," or, "All of a sudden, I have this headache," as though [laughing] wonder of wonders, it happened without your participation. The fact is that whatever you're experiencing physically is always secondary to an originating thought, an originating attitude which you have chosen to embrace, and by embracing it you have embodied it. You have made it your own. You have possessed it. And what? It's going to show up. And so you say, "I think my body may be giving up on me"—like, "I did something wrong and I must have really hurt its feelings, and it's giving up on me."

If you don't remember the order of things—that the idea comes first; that you are Mind, not matter; that you are Mind, not body; and that body is just the visibility and tangibility of your mental presence, if I may put it that way—if you don't remember that, and then you go to your body to find out how you are, you are going to be fooled, you are going to be confused, and you're going to believe what you're confused about.

Now truth is useless if it isn't relevant. Everything that we're reading about is useless if it isn't relevant to your health. You know that I keep saying that you're the Christ, that you are the Presence of God, that you are what God is being right there where you are, and that you're neither behind the Point of Perfection nor advancing toward it. And yet you will abandon that truth in favor of an ache or a pain, and the characterization you apply to that ache or pain, or whatever physical symptoms you might be experiencing. And so you don't catch "the thought," and correct it. And you don't have healing. You don't have a reversal, because you have not reversed the thought.

Now when you seem to be faced with a physical condition that is persisting, you must remember what the solution is. And the solution does not lie in believing the symptom. The solution lies in remembering Who You Are. "I am my Father's Son. I am my Father's Daughter. I am the direct expression of God. And His Expression is perfect. I cannot afford to continue to pay attention to my best assessment of the situation, based upon the data I have gathered from my body."

What happens when you have a child running around who is out of sorts, cranky, whose every act is one that doesn't fit, one that causes disturbance? You don't just let the child continue. You tell the child, "Go sit down. Sit down and be quiet. And I want you to think about whether what you're doing is making you happy or not. And if it's not making you happy, I want you to think about what you're going to do to change your behavior so that what you do does make you happy." You need to sit yourself down. You need to hogtie yourself, to remember—when you're running away with the data that your body supplied you—to remember to shut up, to shut up your mind, to stop putting it to the use you're putting it to, and to choose for your peace.

"No, I've done that. I did that for about ten minutes an hour ago. And I did it for about fifteen minutes the hour before that. And nothing has happened. There is no use." Again, that's not miracle-mindedness. And all it is, is a call for you to practice a little bit of self discipline, and stay with the Truth about yourself longer than ten minutes. If you have to stay in your peace by engaging in meditation for four hours, do it!

Because once you change your mind, once the decision as to what source you're going to be using to gather information about how well you are, once you make a new decision, you will see the evidence. Not because you have marvelous control over this "physical body," but because your body and your Mind are inseparable, and the moment you come into singularity in your Mind, you will have the evidence of harmony. And whatever the symptom is of distress, will fade, either rapidly or instantaneously, but it will fade.

Until you're awake, don't go to "the effect" of your Mind to find out how you are. Go directly to your Mind and bring it into alignment, bring it into Peace. And do it with diligence. Persist in it. Persist in it until you have the evidence. And each time you do this and you have evidence, each successive time you do it, will take less and less time, because part of your mind will not as strongly be saying, "This isn't going to work."

Your body can't give up on you, but it can reflect back to you whether you're giving up on yourself. But then, because you're eternal, you're giving up on yourself doesn't really mean much, because it's impossible for you to totally give up on yourself. So you're really not under any kind of threat, even if *you* have given up on yourself.

God is in His Holy Place and all is well. It is impossible for you to be anywhere else than in that Holy Place, because God is All There Is of you. God is All There Is to you. And that is the transformational fact. That is the fact that corrects illusions, delusions, ignorance, misunderstanding, and all suffering. That fact is what you need to turn to, to gather information about how well you are.

It is a very simple thing. It is not *too* simple. And it is not so simple that you can't possibly grasp the transformational experience that will come from it. You are each capable of doing what it is your Birthright to do—which is to glorify God, which is to embody God, or allow God to embody Himself right there where you are.

And it doesn't matter how impossible the circumstance seems to be. The impossibility of the circumstance is nothing more than an idea that you are postulating in your mind, and then substantiating by whatever means you can, or discrediting by whatever means you can. So get about the business of discrediting authorizations you have been providing that are contrary to the perfect nature of your Being and of your existence, including your body and everything in your world.

Stop "the thought" you are entertaining in its tracks by replacing it with the idea that is True. If you're experiencing some physical condition that is not expressing or embodying health, stop! Stop immediately and say, "God, are You creating this?" The answer, of course, will be, "No," because God is not conflicted, God is not fragmented, and the indivisible Nature of God's Being must be reflected in the indivisible and perfect harmony of all Creation, because there is nothing else to be manifest from That which is Pure.

And then, stay in dialogue with God. And if you can't stay in dialogue with God, then sit down and meditate until you have come into your peace. And honor that peace of your Being enough to abide with it and not find the physical symptoms to be more worthy of your attention than your peace. And of course, out of that peace, your desire, your natural desire to *see* the evidence of Love, and to *be* the evidence of Love.

So use some discipline. And don't settle for ongoing niggling or overt distresses. And if you are noticing physical symptoms, say, "Oop! I've gotten off the track. Where? In my mind." And then ask for help in coming back into your peace, back into your capacity to feel and recognize Love, rather than fear.

I know there are those this week who were very happy to consider the statement, "God is in His Holy Place and all is well," and then found themselves not to be in a place of wonder and amazement and harmony and peace. "Well, maybe God is in His Holy Place and wherever that is, all is well—but not here." Why? Because you went to your body to find out how you were. You went to "the effect," while ignoring the cause, while ignoring the source.

If God is infinite Mind and God is embodying Himself right there where you are, then you are infinite Mind. And if God's Mind is not conflicted or fragmented or

divided, then neither is yours, although you can think in conflicted ways, but your Mind is singular.

And the avenue out of the suffering that is the result of conflicted thinking, is what? To abandon thinking. To take time to, with diligence, meditate and move back into your natural peace, which hasn't been affected in any way by the conflicted thoughts you were thinking, and the fear you engendered in yourself as a result. And then honor that peace enough not to abandon it until the evidence, the visibility and tangibility of your Individuality begins to reflect the Singularity of what your Individuality is when you're not thinking and when you're not characterizing your body as though it has a personality or a life of its own.

Let's go to the book.

RAJ READING: Every Child of God is one in Christ, for his Being is in Christ as Christ's is in God.

RAJ: We could read it this way:

RAJ READING IT DIFFERENTLY: Every little orphan is one in Christ, for his Being is in Christ as Christ's is in God.

RAJ: This is how you begin to remember Who You Are in spite of the fact that you have believed that you're an orphan.

RAJ READING: Christ's love for you is His love for His Father, which He knows because He knows His Father's Love for Him.

RAJ: Now this can just as easily be read about *me* being the Christ as it can be read about *you* truly being the Christ in spite of your belief in orphanhood.

RAJ READING: Christ's love for you is His love for His Father, which He knows because He knows His Father's Love for Him. When the Holy Spirit...

RAJ: Which you could call your Christhood held in trust while you dally with the ego.

RAJ READING: When the Holy Spirit has at last led you to Christ...

RAJ: To your Self.

RAJ READING: ...at the altar to His Father,...

RAJ: Listen to this.

RAJ READING: ...perception fuses into knowledge because perception has become so holy that its transfer to holiness is merely its natural extension.

RAJ: As you yield to the influx of Truth that dawns in your thought, in your mind, and it becomes clearer and clearer to you so that it becomes second nature to you—and this doesn't have to take a long time—there is a resulting "Aha!" of realization. And that's when the fusion occurs.

RAJ READING: When the Holy Spirit has at last led you to Christ at the altar to His Father, perception fuses into knowledge because perception has become so holy that its transfer to holiness is merely its natural extension.

RAJ: "Oh! I see!" That's the experience of the natural extension. "I see! And now I don't see any differently from the way things Are."

RAJ READING: Love transfers to love without any interference, for the situations are identical. As you perceive more and more common elements in ALL situations, the transfer of your training under the Holy Spirit's guidance increases and becomes generalized.

RAJ: Now there's an important point here.

RAJ READING: As you perceive more and more common elements in ALL situations,...

RAJ: That means all the situations you run into every day of your life. It means that spiritual understanding is not an exclusive experience that draws you further and further away from daily mundane experiences.

And this is very important, because you do not want to become spiritually... well, let's put it this way, you don't want to become dysfunctional by virtue of your growing spiritual awareness. And if you think that spiritual awareness has very little to do with your daily life, then you are going to arrive at a point where you're trying to separate or be separate from your daily life so that you may abide in your spiritual awareness. And that will cause you to be dysfunctional and you will not perceive more and more common elements in all situations. As a result, the transfer of your training under the Holy Spirit's guidance will not increase and will not become generalized.

RAJ READING: Gradually you learn to apply it to everyone and everything, for its applicability IS universal. When this has been accomplished, perception and knowledge...

RAJ: Or, as I have called it, Knowing, with a capital "K".

RAJ READING: ...have become so similar that they share the unification of the laws of God.

RAJ: This is very important. Most people die because they believe that their Spirit and their body are two different things existing in two different or as two

different modes of being; one which reflects the truth and one which does not. And as a result, they see their body as able to act on its own; a temporary host to that of you which is spiritual. But not a permanent host, because after all, all it is, is a host. You see? Now that's the word that you give.

That's the perception that the orphan has of the visibility and tangibility of Individuality. It's sees it as something different from visibility and tangibility. As a result, the belief is that there can never really be a true reconciliation of Mind and body, because they are two opposing things, fundamentally. Stop letting the Truth, stop letting God's Truth, stop letting the nature of Reality be something different from and fundamentally at odds with everything in your human experience, including your body, including your world.

It is inevitable for you to perceive more and more common elements in all situations. It's essential for you to.

RAJ READING: What is one...

RAJ: Not separated. Indivisible.

RAJ READING: What is one cannot be perceived as separate, and the denial of the separation IS the re-instatement of knowledge.

RAJ: Of Knowing, with a capital "K".

RAJ READING: At the altar of God,...

RAJ: Which is where? Right in the center of your Being.

RAJ READING: At the altar of God, the holy perception of God's Son...

RAJ: You.

RAJ READING: ...becomes so enlightened that light streams into it,...

RAJ: The infilling of the awareness of Truth streams in, illuminating your awareness and uncovering to you that this tiny sense of orphanhood is absolute sheer nonsense, meaningless, and that it has been foolish for you to have been laboring under the idea that it's real and true.

RAJ READING: ...and the Spirit of God's Son shines in the Mind of the Father...

RAJ: Why? Why does it shine in the Mind of the Father? It shines in the Mind of the Father because suddenly you are no longer claiming to be an orphan. You're no longer claiming a right to be an authority in your own right. You're no longer wanting to make up all the definitions yourself and to have disowned your Source.

RAJ READING: ...and the Spirit of God's Son shines in the Mind of the Father and becomes One with It.

RAJ: You might say that the illumination is a two-way street. You're blessed, but the Father is blessed because you have decided to glorify God again.

RAJ READING: Very gently does God shine upon Himself, loving the extension of Himself which is His Son.

RAJ: You.

RAJ READING: The world has no purpose...

RAJ: On its own.

RAJ READING: The world has no purpose as it blends into the...

RAJ: Capital "P".

RAJ READING: ...Purpose of God.

RAJ: All the meanings that you've applied to the world as this authoritative little orphan fades, dissolves because you're no longer energizing them. And the world which was Creation all along becomes illuminated for what it is. And the world you made up that has no purpose, blends into the Purpose of God. That which you were applying false purpose to blends back into the Purpose of God.

RAJ READING: For the real world has slipped quietly into Heaven, where everything eternal in it has always been.

RAJ: Redemption is the uncovering of that which has always been. The redemption of your body will be the uncovering of what has always perfectly been. It's not a manipulation of "bad matter" into "good matter." It's not the manipulation of "matter" into Spirit. Redemption is the remembering and the unobstructed conscious experience of what has always been.

RAJ READING: There the Redeemer and the redeemed join in perfect love of God and of each other.

RAJ: Very important:

RAJ READING: ...and of each other.

RAJ: Again.

[Repeating the last part of the previous paragraph.]

RAJ READING: As you perceive more and more common elements in ALL situations,...

RAJ: And we could say, all Brothers. All people, places, and things.

RAJ READING: ...the transfer of your training under the Holy Spirit's guidance increases and becomes generalized. Gradually you learn to apply it to everyone and everything, for its applicability IS universal. When this has been accomplished, perception and knowledge have become so similar that they share the unification of the laws of God.

RAJ: It is very important for you to not continue to make differences between the things you see.

"This is me, and that is not me. That is him, and that is not him. This is real, and this is unreal. This is matter, and this is Spirit. This is acceptable, and that is unacceptable. This eyeball is acceptable; that eyeball is not. This eyeball has something wrong with it; that one does not. This hip is acceptable; that hip is not. This knee is acceptable; that one is not. That one needs surgery because something is wrong with it; it is not acceptable."

You must stop making differentiations. And then you must bring all of the things which you have made differentiations between under the purvue of God. You must bring it back into the acknowledgment that God is in His Holy Place and all is well, and nothing is outside Him. Not this knee; not that knee. Not this hip; not that hip. Not this eye; not that eye. None of them are outside the Omnipotent Authority of God being All, without conflict, without dissonance of any kind, because God is Single, God is Singular. Creation is Pure.

[Skipping down to the middle of the current paragraph but still repeating.]

RAJ READING: The world...

RAJ: Of itself.

RAJ READING: ...has no purpose as it blends into the...

RAJ: Capital "P".

RAJ READING: ...Purpose of God. For the real world has slipped quietly...

RAJ: Where?

RAJ READING: ...into Heaven,...

RAJ: Into what it was all along.

RAJ READING: ...where everything eternal in it has always been. There the Redeemer and the redeemed join in perfect love of God and of each other.

[Continuing with a new sentence, which is the last sentence in the paragraph and the section.]

RAJ READING: Heaven is your home, and being in God it must ALSO be in you.

RAJ: The point tonight is for all of you to come back into your simplicity, and to withdraw the temptation to characterize your body or your world as though it had a personality, capable of providing self-direction to it that might not be in your best interest. To remember that the use to which you put your Mind governs what you experience, either distorting your perception of what perfectly is, or undistorting it by virtue of your returning to the proper Sane use of your Mind.

And remember, as I said, when you're experiencing an ache or a pain, ask God, "Are You creating this?" And please, don't indulge in this really insane and perverse question, "God, are You creating this for my benefit?" If God isn't creating it, it isn't happening except in your imagination—your troubled imagination. The troubled imagination that all of you have as long as you believe that you're orphans, that you're on your own, and it's up to you.

Remember that so that you can pinpoint what it is that you need to abandon and stop doing. And then ask the Holy Spirit, or ask God, to correct your mind by causing an infilling of the awareness of Truth that renders your thinking nonsensical enough *to you* that you willingly lay it down. As we said last week, you walk with mighty Companions. Everything... everything in its true Light as What It Truly Is, stands with you in support of and confirmation of your being in your Right Mind. Help is available to you, but you must invite it in instead of continuing to energize your right to have your own thoughts and believe them.

Now I trust that you will all have a better week this week than you had this last week. And if you don't, don't believe your doubt. Ask yourself, "What source are you going to, to gather your information from?" And if it isn't the Holy Spirit, if it isn't me, if it isn't the Father, then stop going to that source, and get back into your peace.

I know many of you might be saying, "Well, why is he stopping here? We've just arrived at the point where it says, 'The Guide for Miracles.' That's just exactly what I need." What you need is what I've shared. Without a grasp of what I've shared, "The Guide for Miracles" is not going to make sense. And I don't want you grasping for a means to make a miracle happen. I'm never ever going to tell you how to make a miracle happen, but I am always going to tell you what you need to do to let a miracle in.

Okay.

I love you all. I love you all, every one of you. And I look forward to being with you next week.

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, you're invited to make a tax-deductible contribution at our website, or send it to our address, both of which are shown below.

A Course in Miracles Study Group with Raj, March 4th 2006 © by The Northwest Foundation for "A Course in Miracles" a non-profit corporation. All rights reserved PO Box 1490 / Kingston, WA 98346-1490 / USA Phone: 360-638-0530 Fax: 360-881-0071

Website: http://www.nwffacim.org E-Mail: paul@nwffacim.org