

The Rhythm and Reason of Reality
Manual for Teachers and Use of Terms
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MANUAL FOR TEACHERS

HOW IS CORRECTION MADE?

*You but mistake interpretation for
the truth. And you are wrong. But a mistake
is not a sin, nor has reality
been taken from its throne by your mistakes.
God reigns forever, and His laws alone
prevail upon you and upon the world.
His Love remains the only thing there is.
Fear is illusion, for you are like Him.*

WHAT IS THE RESURRECTION?

All living hearts are tranquil with a stir
of deep anticipation, for the time
of everlasting things is now at hand.
There is no death. The Son of God is free.
And in his freedom is the end of fear.
No hidden places now remain on earth
to shelter sick illusions, dreams of fear
and misperceptions of the universe.
All things are seen in light, and in the light
their purpose is transformed and understood.
And we, God's children, rise up from the dust
and look upon our perfect sinlessness.
The song of Heaven sounds around the world,
as it is lifted up and brought to truth.

Now there are no distinctions. Differences
have disappeared and Love looks on Itself.
What further sight is needed? What remains
that vision could accomplish? We have seen
the face of Christ, His sinlessness, His Love
behind all forms, beyond all purposes.
Holy are we because His holiness
has set us free indeed! And we accept
His holiness as ours; as it is.

As God created us so will we be
forever and forever, and we wish
for nothing but His Will to be our own.
Illusions of another will are lost,
for unity of purpose has been found.

These things await us all, but we are not
prepared as yet to welcome them with joy.
As long as any mind remains possessed
of evil dreams, the thought of hell is real.
God's teachers have the goal of wakening
the minds of those asleep, and seeing there
the vision of Christ's face to take the place
of what they dream. The thought of murder is
replaced with blessing. Judgment is laid by,
and given Him Whose function judgment is.
And in His final judgment is restored
the truth about the holy Son of God.
He is redeemed, for he has heard God's Word
and understood its meaning. He is free
because he let God's Voice proclaim the truth.
And all he sought before to crucify
are resurrected with him, by his side,
as he prepares with them to meet his God.

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AS FOR THE REST...

And now in all your doings be you blessed.
God turns to you for help to save the world.
Teacher of God, His thanks He offers you,
And all the world stands silent in the grace
You bring from Him. You are the Son He loves,
And it is given you to be the means
Through which His Voice is heard around the world,
To close all things of time; to end the sight
Of all things visible; and to undo
All things that change. Through you is ushered in
A world unseen, unheard, yet truly there.
Holy are you, and in your light the world
Reflects your holiness, for you are not
Alone and friendless. I give thanks for you,
And join your efforts on behalf of God,
Knowing they are on my behalf as well,
And for all those who walk to God with me.

AMEN

CLARIFICATION OF TERMS

THE EGO - THE MIRACLE

Illusions will not last. Their death is sure and this alone is certain in their world. It is the ego's world because of this. What is the *ego*? But a dream of what you really are. A thought you are apart from your Creator and a wish to be what He created not. It is a thing of madness, not reality at all. A name for namelessness is all it is. A symbol of impossibility; a choice for options that do not exist. We name it but to help us understand that it is nothing but an ancient thought that what is made has immortality. But what could come of this except a dream which, like all dreams, can only end in death?

What is the ego? Nothingness, but in a form that seems like something. In a world of form the ego cannot be denied for it alone seems real. Yet could God's Son as He created him abide in form or in a world of form? Who asks you to define the ego and explain how it arose can be but he who thinks it real, and seeks by definition to ensure that its illusive nature is concealed behind the words that seem to make it so.

There is no definition for a lie that serves to make it true. Nor can there be a truth that lies conceal effectively. The ego's unreality is not denied by words nor is its meaning clear because its nature seems to have a form. Who can define the undefinable? And yet there is an answer even here.

We cannot really make a definition for what the ego is, but we *can* say what it is not. And this is shown to us with perfect clarity. It is from this that we deduce all that the ego is. Look at its opposite and you can see the only answer that is meaningful.

The ego's opposite in every way, - in origin, effect and consequence - we call a miracle. And here we find all that is not the ego in this world. Here is the ego's opposite and here alone we look on what the ego was,

for here we see all that it seemed to do, and cause and its effects must still be one.

Where there was darkness now we see the light. What is the ego? What the darkness was. Where is the ego? Where the darkness was. What is it now and where can it be found? Nothing and nowhere. Now the light has come: Its opposite has gone without a trace. Where evil was there now is holiness. What is the ego? What the evil was. Where is the ego? In an evil dream that but seemed real while you were dreaming it. Where there was crucifixion stands God's Son. What is the ego? Who has need to ask? Where is the ego? Who has need to seek for an illusion now that dreams are gone?

What is a *miracle*? A dream as well. But look at all the aspects of *this* dream and you will never question any more. Look at the kindly world you see extend before you as you walk in gentleness. Look at the helpers all along the way you travel, happy in the certainty of Heaven and the surety of peace. And look an instant, too, on what you left behind at last and finally passed by.

This was the ego - all the cruel hate, the need for vengeance and the cries of pain, the fear of dying and the urge to kill, the brotherless illusion and the self that seemed alone in all the universe. This terrible mistake about yourself the miracle corrects as gently as a loving mother sings her child to rest. Is not a song like this what you would hear? Would it not answer all you thought to ask, and even make the question meaningless?

Your questions have no answer, being made to still God's Voice, Which asks of everyone one question only: "Are you ready yet to help Me save the world?" Ask this instead of what the ego is, and you will see a sudden brightness cover up the world the ego made. No miracle is now withheld from anyone. The world is saved from what you thought it was. And what it is, is wholly uncondemned and wholly pure.

The miracle forgives; the ego damns.

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Neither need be defined except by this.
Yet could a definition be more sure,
or more in line with what salvation is?
Problem and answer lie together here,
and having met at last the choice is clear.

Who chooses hell when it is recognized?
And who would not go on a little while
when it is given him to understand
the way is short and Heaven is his goal?

FORGIVENESS - THE FACE OF CHRIST

How lovely does the world become in just
that single instant when you see the truth
about yourself reflected there. Now you
are sinless and behold your sinlessness.
Now you are holy and perceive it so.
And now the mind returns to its Creator;

the joining of the Father and the Son,
the Unity of unities that stands
behind all joining but beyond them all.
God is not seen but only understood.
His Son is not attacked but recognized.

TRUE PERCEPTION - KNOWLEDGE

The world stands like a block before Christ's face.
But true perception looks on it
as nothing more than just a fragile veil,
so easily dispelled that it can last
no longer than an instant. It
is seen at last for only what it is.
And now it cannot fail to disappear,
for now there is an empty place made clean
and ready. Where destruction was perceived
the face of Christ appears,
and in that instant is the world forgot,
with time forever ended as the world
spins into nothingness from where it came.

A world forgiven cannot last. It was
the home of bodies. But forgiveness looks
past bodies. This is its holiness;
this is how it heals.
The world of bodies is the world of sin,
for only if there were a body is
sin possible. From sin comes guilt as surely
as forgiveness takes all guilt away.
And once all guilt is gone what more remains
to keep a separated world in place?
For place has gone as well, along with time.
Only the body makes the world seem real,
for being separate it could not remain
where separation is impossible.
Forgiveness proves it is impossible
because it sees it not.
And what you then will overlook will not
be understandable to you, just as
its presence once had been your certainty.

This is the shift that true perception brings:

What was projected out is seen within,
and there forgiveness lets it disappear.
For there the altar to the Son is set,
and there his Father is remembered. Here
are all illusions brought to truth and laid
upon the altar. What is seen outside
must lie beyond forgiveness, for it seems
to be forever sinful. Where is hope
while sin is seen as outside? What remedy
can guilt expect? But seen within your mind,
guilt and forgiveness for an instant lie
together, side by side,
upon one altar. There at last
are sickness and its single remedy
joined in one healing brightness. God has come
to claim His Own. Forgiveness is complete. And now
God's *knowledge*,
changeless, certain, pure
and wholly understandable,
enters its kingdom.
Gone is perception, false and true alike.
Gone is forgiveness, for its task is done.
And gone are bodies in the blazing light
upon the altar to the Son of God.
God knows it is His Own, as it is his.
And here they join, for here the face of Christ
has shone away time's final instant, and
now is the last perception of the world
without a purpose and without a cause.
For where God's memory has come at last
there is no journey, no belief in sin,
no walls, no bodies, and the grim appeal
of guilt and death is there snuffed out forever.

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O my brothers, if you only knew
the peace that will envelop you and hold
you safe and pure and lovely in the Mind
of God, you could but rush to meet Him where
His altar is. Hallowed your name and His,

for they are joined here in this holy place.
Here He leans down to lift you up to Him,
out of illusions into holiness;
out of the world and to eternity;
out of all fear and given back to love.

JESUS - CHRIST

There is no need for help to enter Heaven
for you have never left.
But there is need for help beyond yourself
as you are circumscribed by false beliefs
of your Identity, Which God alone
established in reality.
Helpers are given you in many forms,
although upon the altar they are one.
Beyond each one there is a Thought of God,
and this will never change.
But they have names which differ for a time,
for time needs symbols, being itself unreal.
Their names are legion, but we will not go
beyond the names the course itself employs.
God does not help because He knows no need.
But He creates all Helpers of His Son
while he believes his fantasies are true.
Thank God for them for they will lead you home.

The name of *Jesus* is the name of one
who was a man but saw the face of Christ
in all his brothers and remembered God.
So he became identified with *Christ*,
a man no longer, but at one with God.
The man was an illusion, for he seemed
to be a separate being,
walking by himself,
within a body that appeared to hold
his self from Self, as all illusions do.
Yet who can save unless he sees illusions
and then identifies them as what they are?
Jesus remains a Savior because he saw
the false without accepting it as true.
And Christ needed his form
that He might appear to men
and save them from their own illusions.

In his complete identification with
the Christ - the perfect Son of God,
His one creation and His happiness,
forever like Himself and one with Him
- Jesus became what all of you must be.
He led the way for you to follow him.
He leads you back to God because he saw
the road before him, and he followed it.
He made a clear distinction,

still obscure to you,
between the false and true. He offered you
a final demonstration that it is
impossible to kill God's Son;
nor can his life in any way be changed
by sin and evil, malice, fear or death.

And therefore all your sins have been forgiven
because they carried no effects at all.
And so they were but dreams. Arise with him
who showed you this because you owe him this
who shared your dreams
that they might be dispelled.
And shares them still, to be at one with you.

Is he the Christ? O yes, along with you.
His little life on earth was not enough
to teach the mighty lesson that he learned
for all of you. He will remain with you
to lead you from the hell you made to God.
And when you join your will with his,
your sight will be his vision, for
the eyes of Christ are shared.

Walking with him is just as natural
as walking with a brother whom you knew
since you were born, for such indeed he is.
Some bitter idols have been made of him
who would be only brother to the world.
Forgive him your illusions, and behold
how dear a brother he would be to you.
For he will set your mind at rest at last
and carry it with you unto your God.

Is he God's only Helper? No, indeed.
For Christ takes many forms with different names
until their oneness can be recognized.
But Jesus is for you the bearer of
Christ's single message of the Love of God.
You need no other. It is possible
to read his words and benefit from them
without accepting him into your life.
Yet he would help you yet a little more
if you will share your pains and joys with him,
and leave them both to find the peace of God.
Yet still it is his lesson most of all
that he would have you learn, and it is this:

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*There is no death because the Son of God
is like his Father. Nothing you can do
can change Eternal Love. Forget your dreams
of sin and guilt, and come with me instead
to share the resurrection of God's Son.
And bring with you all those whom He has sent
to you to care for as I care for you.*

EPILOGUE

Forget not once this journey is begun
the end is certain. Doubt along the way
will come and go and go to come again.
Yet is the ending sure. No one can fail
to do what God appointed him to do.
When you forget, remember that you walk
with Him and with His Word upon your heart.
Who could despair when Hope like this is his?
Illusions of despair may seem to come,
but learn how not to be deceived by them.
Behind each one there is reality
and there is God. Why would you wait for this
and trade it for illusions, when His Love
is but an instant farther on the road
where all illusions end? The end *is* sure
and guaranteed by God. Who stands before
a lifeless image when a step away
the Holy of the Holies opens up
an ancient door that leads beyond the world?

You *are* a stranger here. But you belong
to Him Who loves you as He loves Himself.
Ask but my help to roll the stone away,
and it is done according to His Will.
We *have* begun the journey. Long ago
the end was written in the stars and set
into the Heavens with a shining Ray
that held it safe within eternity
and through all time as well. And holds it still;
unchanged, unchanging and unchangeable.

Be not afraid. We only start again
an ancient journey long ago begun
that but seems new. We have begun again
upon a road we travelled on before
and lost our way a little while. And now

we try again. Our new beginning has
the certainty the journey lacked till now.
Look up and see His Word among the stars,
where He has set your name along with His.
Look up and find your certain destiny
the world would hide but God would have you see.

Let us wait here in silence, and kneel down
an instant in our gratitude to Him
Who called to us and helped us hear His Call.
And then let us arise and go in faith
along the way to Him. Now we are sure
we do not walk alone. For God is here,
and with Him all our brothers. Now we know
that we will never lose the way again.
The song begins again which had been stopped
only an instant, though it seems to be
unsung forever. What is here begun
will grow in life and strength and hope, until
the world is still an instant and forgets
all that the dream of sin had made of it.

Let us go out and meet the newborn world,
knowing that Christ has been reborn in it,
and that the holiness of this rebirth
will last forever. We had lost our way
but He has found it for us. Let us go
and bid Him welcome Who returns to us
to celebrate salvation and the end
of all we thought we made. The morning star
of this new day looks on a different world
where God is welcomed and His Son with Him.
We who complete Him offer thanks to Him,
as He gives thanks to us. The Son is still,
and in the quiet God has given him
enters his home and is at peace at last.