

ACIM Glossary

Jan Worley

Atonement

The realization that the separation from God never really occurred; it will be completed when everyone has achieved total forgiveness.

Christ

One of the three parts of the Trinity; the one Son of God or totality of the Sonship; created by God's extension of His spirit; not to be equated exclusively with Jesus.

ego

The self we think we are which is false; was made by us and is only an insane belief that we are separate from God; the home of fear and attack.

forgiveness

The recognition that the pain, anger, and loss of peace someone else (or an event) seemed to cause us, was our decision no matter what happened, being able to see the situation differently, and letting the Holy Spirit remove the guilt from us that was the basis for the initial anger and loss of peace; in addition, the extending of love to the one that "wronged" us so that he is healed also.

God

The Mind or Spirit that created the Son (or Christ or Sonship) and the Holy Spirit; God has no form, no gender, and is not judgmental; God is love.

Heaven

The home of all that is real (God, Christ or Sonship, Holy Spirit); "Heaven is not a place or condition. It is merely an awareness of perfect oneness."

holy instant

A moment outside time in which we temporarily transcend identification with illusions and recognize what is real; "the Holy Spirit's most useful learning device for teaching you love's meaning"; "God's appeal to you to recognize what He has given you".

holy relationship (also called real relationship)

- 1) A process of achieving holiness between two people who have joined in a common goal which precipitates the Holy Spirit entering into the relationship and making it holy (initially only deep in the subconscious of each partner), that eventually will bring a sense of oneness (instead of separate egos) and the vision of holiness
- 2) A process of transforming a special love relationship into one motivated by love; the building of a relationship in which the happiness of the other person is dominant instead of the satisfaction of one's own perceived needs.

Holy Spirit

The third part of the Trinity; God's answer to the separation; the Voice for God, our internal Teacher, the communication link between God and His separated sons.

Jesus

One of God's sons, equal to all the rest; the first one who completed his own part perfectly in the illusion, enabling him to be the leader of the whole plan; the source of ACIM; serves as our model for learning and an ever-present help when we call upon him in our desire to forgive.

level confusion

Confusing the three levels of spirit, mind, and body by thinking that correction applies to a level other than the mind.

mind

The mind of each person seems to consist of two parts – the spirit (which is eternal and part of God), and an “individual” mind (which is an illusion). In reality, the mind is the activating agent of our spirit, which gives it the faculties of awareness, volition, thought, and emotion. In the illusion we think that we are an ego, which is an insane belief that we are separate from God. The real mind, with every thought, chooses to serve either the spirit (the influence of the Holy Spirit) or our notion of the ego. When the mind is healed (has chosen complete forgiveness for all and listens only to the Holy Spirit), it is restored to awareness of its oneness with the Mind of God. The mind is separate from the brain. When capitalized, the term refers to God or Christ.

miracle

- 1) Generic – An extension of love from one brother to another.
- 2) Technical -- An intentional expression of love by the miracle worker, inspired by Jesus, to another brother, with trust in God, that initiates a not of this world, time collapsing experience by the Holy Spirit, that provides healing to the mind of the recipient and also healing to the mind of the miracle giver.

real world (also called vision or Christ's vision, or seeing)

A state of mind where the world disappears in awareness and all that remains is a reflection of Oneness; it is not Heaven, but a perceptual reflection of Heaven; this is our goal for it contains the memory of God. It is true perception. It is attained by complete forgiveness of the old, the world we see without forgiveness.

sin

The false belief that some or all wrong doings are irreversible and unforgivable, that punishment is appropriate correction for them, that the mind is guilty and only another mind not part of it can give absolution, and that attack is real and guilt is justified. However, there is no sin! We all make mistakes, but no one sins. Mistakes, regardless of their form, can be corrected, and they are only within the illusion. God does not condemn. “There is no stone in all the ego's embattled citadel that is more heavily defended than the idea that sin is real”.

special function

The specific way of helping, healing, and forgiving the brothers entrusted to us, that is particular to each person and suited to each one's own talents and strengths, which is our part in the plan of salvation.

special relationship (also called special love relationship or unholy relationship)

A relationship between two people who have entered into an implicit bargain based on trying to inflate each other's importance (to become more "special") and have their individual needs (as they perceive them to be) met by the other person; an illusion of love; "the ego's chief weapon for keeping you from Heaven"; special relationships are healed through holy instants and forgiveness.

spirit

It is the Thought of God which He created like Himself; the element in each person that is of God, is perfect, changeless, eternal, and formless; it is in contact with God through the Holy Spirit. The term is synonymous with the term "soul".

soul

See "spirit". In the original dictation of the Course (Urtext), the term (in many places) referred not to spirit in general, but to one's own spirit or soul, the eternal element in each person.