


The Great Rays

IV. The End of Sickness


1. All magic is an attempt at reconciling the irreconcilable. ² All religion is the recognition that the irreconcilable cannot be reconciled. ³ Sickness and perfection are irreconcilable. ⁴ If God created you perfect, you *are* perfect. ⁵ If you believe you can be sick, you have placed other gods before Him. ⁶ God is not at war with the god of sickness you made, but you are. ⁷ He is the symbol of deciding against God, and you are afraid of him because he cannot be reconciled with God's Will. ⁸ If you attack him, you will make him real to you. ⁹ But if you refuse to worship him in whatever form he may appear to you, and wherever you think you see him, he will disappear into the nothingness out of which he was made.
2. Reality can dawn only on an unclouded mind. ² It is always there to be accepted, but its acceptance depends on your willingness to have it. ³ To know reality must involve the willingness to judge unreality for what it is. ⁴ To overlook nothingness is merely to judge it correctly, and because of your ability to evaluate it truly, to let it go. ⁵ Knowledge cannot dawn on a mind full of illusions, because truth and illusions are irreconcilable. ⁶ Truth is whole, and cannot be known by part of a mind.
3. The Sonship cannot be perceived as partly sick, because to perceive it that way is not to perceive it at all. ² If the Sonship is One, it is One in all respects. ³ Oneness cannot be divided. ⁴ If you perceive other gods your mind is split, and you will not be able to limit the split, because it is the sign that you have removed part of your mind from God's Will. ⁵ This means it is out of control. ⁶ To be out of control is to be out of reason, and then the mind does become unreasonable. ⁷ By defining the mind wrongly, you perceive it as functioning wrongly.
4. God's laws will keep your mind at peace because peace is His Will, and His laws are established to uphold it. ² His are the laws of freedom, but yours are the laws of bondage. ³ Since freedom and bondage are irreconcilable, their laws cannot be understood together. ⁴ The laws of God work only for your good, and there are no other laws beside His. ⁵ Everything else is merely lawless and therefore chaotic. ⁶ Yet God Himself has protected everything He created by His laws. ⁷ Everything that is not under them does  exist. ⁸ "Laws of chaos" is a meaningless term. ⁹ Creation is perfectly lawful, and the chaotic is without meaning because it is without God. ¹⁰ You have "given" your peace to the gods you made, but they are not there to take it from you, and you cannot give it to them.
5. You are not free to give up freedom, but only to deny it. ² You cannot do what God did not intend, because what He did not intend does not happen. ³ Your gods do not bring chaos; you are endowing them with chaos, and accepting it of them. ⁴ All this has never been. ⁵ Nothing but the laws of God has ever been, and nothing but His Will will ever be. ⁶ You were created through His laws and by His Will, and the manner of your creation established you a creator. ⁷ What you have made is so unworthy of you that you could hardly want it, if you were willing to see it as it is. ⁸ You will see nothing at all. ⁹ And your vision will automatically look beyond it, to what is in you and all around you. ¹⁰ Reality cannot break through the obstructions you interpose, but it will envelop you completely when you let them go.
6. When you have experienced the protection of God, the making of idols becomes inconceivable. ² There are no strange images in the Mind of God, and what is not in His Mind cannot be in yours,

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because you are of one mind and that mind belongs to Him. ³ It is yours *because* it belongs to Him, for to Him ownership is sharing. ⁴ And if it is so for Him, it is so for you. ⁵ His definitions *are* His laws, for by them He established the universe as what it is. ⁶ No false gods you attempt to interpose between yourself and your reality affect truth at all. ⁷ Peace is yours because God created you. ⁸ And He created nothing else.

7. The miracle is the act of a Son of God who has laid aside all false gods, and calls on his brothers to do likewise. ² It is an act of faith, because it is the recognition that his brother can do it. ³ It is a call to the Holy Spirit in his mind, a call that is strengthened by joining. ⁴ Because the miracle worker has heard God's Voice, he strengthens It in a sick brother by weakening his belief in sickness, which he does not share. ⁵ The power of one mind can shine into another, because all the lamps of God were lit by the same spark. ⁶ It is everywhere and it is eternal.
8. In many only the spark remains, for the **Great Rays** are obscured. ² Yet God has kept the spark alive so that the **Rays** can never be completely forgotten. ³ If you but see the little spark you will learn of the greater light, for the **Rays** are there unseen. ⁴ Perceiving the spark will heal, but knowing the light will create. ⁵ Yet in the returning the little light must be acknowledged first, for the separation was a descent from magnitude to littleness. ⁶ But the spark is still as pure as the **Great Light**, because it is the remaining call of creation. ⁷ Put all your faith in it, and God Himself will answer you.

IX. The Holy Instant and the Attraction of God

1. As the ego would limit your perception of your brothers to the body, so would the Holy Spirit release your vision and let you see the **Great Rays** shining from them, so unlimited that they reach to God. ² It is this shift to vision that is accomplished in the holy instant. ³ Yet it is needful for you to learn just what this shift entails, so you will become willing to make it permanent. ⁴ Given this willingness it will not leave you, for it *is* permanent. ⁵ Once you have accepted it as the only perception you want, it is translated into knowledge by the part that God Himself plays in the Atonement, for it is the only step in it He understands. ⁶ Therefore, in this there will be no delay when you are ready for it. ⁷  is ready now, but you are not.
2. Our task is but to continue, as fast as possible, the necessary process of looking straight at all the interference and seeing it exactly as it is. ² For it is impossible to recognize as wholly without gratification what you think you want. ³ The body is the symbol of the ego, as the ego is the symbol of the separation. ⁴ And both are nothing more than attempts to limit communication, and thereby to make it impossible. ⁵ For communication must be unlimited in order to have meaning, and deprived of meaning, it will not satisfy you completely. ⁶ Yet it remains the only means by which you can establish real relationships, which have no limits, having been established by God.
3. In the holy instant, where the **Great Rays** replace the body in awareness, the recognition of relationships without limits is given you. ² But in order to see this, it is necessary to give up every use the ego has for the body, and to accept the fact that the ego has no purpose you would share with it. ³ For the ego would limit everyone to a body for its own purposes, and while you think it has a purpose, you will choose to utilize the means by which it tries to turn its purpose into accomplishment. ⁴ This will never be accomplished. ⁵ Yet you have surely recognized that the ego, whose goals are altogether unattainable, will strive for them with all its might, and will do so with

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the strength that you have given it.


4. It is impossible to divide your strength between Heaven and hell, God and the ego, and release your power to creation, which is the only purpose for which it was given you. ² Love would *always* give increase. ³ Limits are demanded by the ego, and represent its demands to make little and ineffectual. ⁴ Limit your sight of a brother to his body, which you will do as long as you would not release him from it, and you have denied his gift to you. ⁵ His body cannot give it. ⁶ And seek it not through yours. ⁷ Yet your minds are already continuous, and their union need only be accepted and the loneliness in Heaven is gone.
5. If you would but let the Holy Spirit tell you of the Love of God for you, and the need your creations have to be with you forever, you would experience the attraction of the eternal. ² No one can hear Him speak of this and long remain willing to linger here. ³ For it is your will to be in Heaven, where you are complete and quiet, in such sure and loving relationships that any limit is impossible. ⁴ Would you not exchange your little relationships for this? ⁵ For the body *is* little and limited, and only those whom you would see without the limits the ego would impose on them can offer you the gift of freedom.
6. You have no conception of the limits you have placed on your perception, and no idea of all the loveliness that you could see. ² But this you must remember; the attraction of guilt opposes the attraction of God. ³ His attraction for you remains unlimited, but because your power, being His, is as great as His, you can turn away from love. ⁴ What you invest in guilt you withdraw from God. ⁵ And your sight grows weak and dim and limited, for you have attempted to separate the Father from the Son, and limit their communication. ⁶ Seek not Atonement in further separation. ⁷ And limit not your vision of God's Son to what interferes with his release, and what the Holy Spirit must undo to set him free. ⁸ For his belief in limits *has* imprisoned him.
7. When the body ceases to attract you, and when you place no value on it as a means of getting anything, then there will be no interference in communication and your thoughts will be as free as God's. ² As you let the Holy Spirit teach you how to use the body only for purposes of communication, and renounce its use for separation and attack which the ego sees in it, you will learn you have no need of a body at all. ³ In the holy instant there are no bodies, and you experience only the attraction of God. ⁴ Accepting it as undivided you join Him wholly, in an instant, for you would place no limits on your union with Him. ⁵ The reality of this relationship becomes the only truth that you could ever want. ⁶ All truth *is* here.

VI. The Bridge to the Real World

1. The search for the special relationship is the sign that you equate yourself with the ego and not with God. ² For the special relationship has value only to the ego. ³ To the ego, unless a relationship has special value it has no meaning, for it perceives all love as special. ⁴ Yet this cannot be natural, for it is unlike the relationship of God and His Son, and all relationships that are unlike this one *must* be unnatural. ⁵ For God created love as He would have it be, and gave it as it is. ⁶ Love has no meaning except as its Creator defined it by His Will. ⁷ It is impossible to define it otherwise and understand it.
2. Love is freedom. ² To look for it by placing yourself in bondage is to separate yourself from it. ³

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For the Love of God, no longer seek for union in separation, nor for freedom in bondage! ⁴ As you release, so will you be released. ⁵ Forget this not, or Love will be unable to find you and comfort you.

3. There is a way in which the Holy Spirit asks your help, if you would have His. ² The holy instant is His most helpful aid in protecting you from the attraction of guilt, the real lure in the special relationship. ³ You do not recognize that this is its real appeal, for the ego has taught you that freedom lies in it. ⁴ Yet the closer you look at the special relationship, the more apparent it becomes that it must foster guilt and therefore must imprison.
4. The special relationship is totally meaningless without a body. ² If you value it, you must also value the body. ³ And what you value you will keep. ⁴ The special relationship is a device for limiting your self to a body, and for limiting your perception of others to theirs. ⁵ The **Great Rays** would establish the total lack of value of the special relationship, if they were seen. ⁶ For in seeing them the body would disappear, because its value would be lost. ⁷ And so your whole investment in seeing it would be withdrawn from it.
5. You see the world you value. ² On this side of the bridge you see the world of separate bodies, seeking to join each other in separate unions and to become one by losing. ³ When two individuals seek to become one, they are trying to decrease their magnitude. ⁴ Each would deny his power, for the separate union excludes the universe. ⁵ Far more is left outside than would be taken in, for God is left without and *nothing* taken in. ⁶ If one such union were made in perfect faith, the universe would enter into it. ⁷ Yet the special relationship the ego seeks does not include even one whole individual. ⁸ The ego wants but part of him, and sees only this part and nothing else.
6. Across the bridge it is so different! ² For a time the body is still seen, but not exclusively, as it is seen here. ³ The little spark that holds the **Great Rays** within it is also visible, and this spark cannot be limited long to littleness. ⁴ Once you have crossed the bridge, the value of the body is so diminished in your sight that you will see no need at all to magnify it. ⁵ For you will realize that the only value the body has is to enable you to bring your brothers to the bridge with you, and to be released together there.
7.  The bridge itself is nothing more than a transition in the perspective of reality. ² On this side, everything you see is grossly distorted and completely out of perspective. ³ What is little and insignificant is magnified, and what is strong and powerful cut down to littleness. ⁴ In the transition there is a period of confusion, in which a sense of actual disorientation may occur. ⁵ But fear it not, for it means only that you have been willing to let go your hold on the distorted frame of reference that seemed to hold your world together. ⁶ This frame of reference is built around the special relationship. ⁷ Without this illusion there could be no meaning you would still seek here.
8. Fear not that you will be abruptly lifted up and hurled into reality. ² Time is kind, and if you use it on behalf of reality, it will keep gentle pace with you in your transition. ³ The urgency is only in dislodging your mind from its fixed position here. ⁴ This will not leave you homeless and without a frame of reference. ⁵ The period of disorientation, which precedes the actual transition, is far shorter than the time it took to fix your mind so firmly on illusions. ⁶ Delay will hurt you now more than before, only because you realize it *is* delay, and that escape from pain is really possible. ⁷ Find hope and comfort, rather than despair, in this: You could not long find even the illusion of love in any special relationship here. ⁸ For you are no longer wholly insane, and you would soon recognize the

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guilt of self-betrayal for what it is.

9. Nothing you seek to strengthen in the special relationship is really part of you. ² And you cannot keep part of the thought system that taught you it was real, and understand the Thought that *knows* what you are. ³ You have allowed the Thought of your reality to enter your mind, and because you invited it, it will abide with you. ⁴ Your love for it will not allow you to betray yourself, and you could not enter into a relationship where it could not go with you, for you would not want to be apart from it.
10. Be glad you have escaped the mockery of salvation the ego offered you, and look not back with longing on the travesty it made of your relationships. ² Now no one need suffer, for you have come too far to yield to the illusion of the beauty and holiness of guilt. ³ Only the wholly insane could look on death and suffering, sickness and despair, and see it thus. ⁴ What guilt has wrought is ugly, fearful and very dangerous. ⁵ See no illusion of truth and beauty there. ⁶ And be you thankful that there *is* a place where truth and beauty wait for you. ⁷ Go on to meet them gladly, and learn how much awaits you for the simple willingness to give up nothing *because* it is nothing.
11. The new perspective you will gain from crossing over will be the understanding of where Heaven *is*. ² From this side, it seems to be outside and across the bridge. ³ Yet as you cross to join it, it will join with you and become one with you. ⁴ And you will think, in glad astonishment, that for all this you gave up *nothing!* ⁵ The joy of Heaven, which has no limit, is increased with each light that returns to take its rightful place within it. ⁶ Wait no longer, for the Love of God and *you*. ⁷ And may the holy instant speed you on the way, as it will surely do if you but let it come to you.
12. The Holy Spirit asks only this little help of you: Whenever your thoughts wander to a special relationship which still attracts you, enter with Him into a holy instant, and there let Him release you. ² He needs only your willingness to share His perspective to give it to you completely. ³ And your willingness need not be complete because His is perfect. ⁴ It is His task to atone for your unwillingness by His perfect faith, and it is His faith you share with Him there. ⁵ Out of your recognition of your unwillingness for your release, His perfect willingness is given you. ⁶ Call upon Him, for Heaven is at His Call. ⁷ And let Him call on Heaven for you.




III. Light in the Dream

1. You who have spent your life in bringing truth to illusion, reality to fantasy, have walked the way of dreams. ² For you have gone from waking to sleeping, and on and on to a yet deeper sleep. ³ Each dream has led to other dreams, and every fantasy that seemed to bring a light into the darkness but made the darkness deeper. ⁴ Your goal was darkness, in which no ray of light could enter. ⁵ And you sought a blackness so complete that you could hide from truth forever, in complete insanity. ⁶ What you forgot was simply that God cannot destroy Himself. ⁷ The light is *in* you. ⁸ Darkness can cover it, but cannot put it out.
2. As the light comes nearer you will rush to darkness, shrinking from the truth, sometimes retreating to the lesser forms of fear, and sometimes to stark terror. ² But you will advance, because your goal is the advance from fear to truth. ³ The goal you accepted is the goal of knowledge, for which you signified your willingness. ⁴ Fear seems to live in darkness, and when you are afraid you have stepped back. ⁵ Let us then join quickly in an instant of light, and it will be enough to remind

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you that your goal is light.

3. Truth has rushed to meet you since you called upon it. ² If you knew Who walks beside you on the way that you have chosen, fear would be impossible. ³ You do not know because the journey into darkness has been long and cruel, and you have gone deep into it. ⁴ A little flicker of your eyelids, closed so long, has not yet been sufficient to give you confidence in yourself, so long despired. ⁵ You go toward love still hating it, and terribly afraid of its judgment upon you. ⁶ And you do not realize that you are not afraid of love, but only of what you have made of it. ⁷ You are advancing to love's meaning, and away from all illusions in which you have surrounded it. ⁸ When you retreat to the illusion your fear increases, for there is little doubt that what you think it means *is* fearful. ⁹ Yet what is that to us who travel surely and very swiftly away from fear?
4. You who hold your brother's hand also hold mine, for when you joined each other you were not alone. ² Do you believe that I would leave you in the darkness that you agreed to leave with me? ³ In your relationship is this world's light. ⁴ And fear must disappear before you now. ⁵ Be tempted not to snatch away the gift of faith you offered to your brother. ⁶ You will succeed only in frightening yourself. ⁷ The gift is given forever, for God Himself received it. ⁸ You cannot take it back. ⁹ You have accepted God. ¹⁰ The holiness of your relationship is established in Heaven. ¹¹ You do not understand what you accepted, but remember that your understanding is not necessary. ¹² All that was necessary was merely the *wish* to understand. ¹³ That wish was the desire to be holy. ¹⁴ The Will of God is granted you. ¹⁵ For you desire the only thing you ever had, or ever were.
5. Each instant that we spend together will teach you that this goal is possible, and will strengthen your desire to reach it. ² And in your desire lies its accomplishment. ³ Your desire is now in complete accord with all the power of the Holy Spirit's Will. ⁴ No little, faltering footsteps that you may take can separate your desire from His Will and from His strength. ⁵ I hold your hand as surely as you agreed to take your brother's. ⁶ You will not separate, for I stand with you and walk with you in your advance to truth. ⁷ And where we go we carry God with us.
6. In your relationship you have joined with me in bringing Heaven to the Son of God, who hid in darkness. ² You have been willing to bring the darkness to light, and this willingness has given strength to everyone who w  remain in darkness. ³ Those who would see *will* see. ⁴ And they will join with me in carrying their light into the darkness, when the darkness in them is offered to the light, and is removed forever. ⁵ My need for you, joined with me in the holy light of your relationship, is your need for salvation. ⁶ Would I not give you what you gave to me? ⁷ For when you joined your brother, you answered me.
7. You who are now the bringer of salvation have the function of bringing light to darkness. ² The darkness in you has been brought to light. ³ Carry it back to darkness, from the holy instant to which you brought it. ⁴ We are made whole in our desire to make whole. ⁵ Let not time worry you, for all the fear that you and your brother experience is really past. ⁶ Time has been readjusted to help us do, together, what your separate pasts would hinder. ⁷ You have gone past fear, for no two minds can join in the desire for love without love's joining them.
8. Not one light in Heaven but goes with you. ² Not one Ray that shines forever in the Mind of God but shines on you. ³ Heaven is joined with you in your advance to Heaven. ⁴ When such **great** lights have joined with you to give the little spark of your desire the power of God Himself, can you remain in darkness? ⁵ You and your brother are coming home together, after a long and meaningless

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journey that you undertook apart, and that led nowhere. ⁶ You have found your brother, and you will light each other's way. ⁷ And from this light will the **Great Rays** extend back into darkness and forward unto God, to shine away the past and so make room for His eternal Presence, in which everything is radiant in the light.

LESSON 360.

**Peace be to me, the holy Son of God.
Peace to my brother, who is one with me.
Let all the world be blessed with peace through us.**

1. *Father, it is Your peace that I would give, receiving it of You. ² I am Your Son, forever just as You created me, for the **Great Rays** remain forever still and undisturbed within me. ³ I would reach to them in silence and in certainty, for nowhere else can certainty be found. ⁴ Peace be to me, and peace to all the world. ⁵ In holiness were we created, and in holiness do we remain. ⁶ Your Son is like to You in perfect sinlessness. ⁷ And with this thought we gladly say "Amen."*

