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IV. Seeking and Finding

T-12.IV.1. The ego is certain that love is dangerous, and this is always its central teaching. 2 It never puts it this way; on the contrary, everyone who believes that the ego is salvation seems to be intensely engaged in the search for love. 3 Yet the ego, though encouraging the search for love very actively, makes one proviso; do not find it. 4 Its dictates, then, can be summed up simply as: "Seek and do *not* find." 5 This is the one promise the ego holds out to you, and the one promise it will keep. 6 For the ego pursues its goal with fanatic insistence, and its judgment, though severely impaired, is completely consistent.

T-12.IV.2. The search the ego undertakes is therefore bound to be defeated. 2 And since it also teaches that it is your identification, its guidance leads you to a journey which must

end in perceived self-defeat. 3 For the ego cannot love, and in its frantic search for love it is seeking what it is afraid to find. 4 The search is inevitable because the ego is part of your mind, and because of its source the ego is not wholly split off, or it could not be believed at all. 5 For it is your mind that believes in it and gives existence to it. 6 Yet it is also your mind that has the power to deny the ego's existence, and you will surely do so when you realize exactly what the journey is on which the ego sets you.

T-12.IV.3. It is surely obvious that no one wants to find what would utterly defeat him. 2 Being unable to love, the ego would be totally inadequate in love's presence, for it could not respond at all. 3 Then, you would have to abandon the ego's guidance, for it would be quite apparent that it had not taught you the response you need. 4 The ego will therefore distort love, and teach you that love really calls forth the responses the ego *can* teach. 5 Follow its teaching, then, and you will search for love, but will not recognize it.

T-12.IV.4. Do you realize that the ego must set you on a journey which cannot but lead to a sense of futility and depression? 2 To seek and not to find is hardly joyous. 3 Is this the promise you would keep? 4 The Holy Spirit offers you another promise, and one that will lead to joy. 5 For His promise is always, "Seek and you *will* find," and under His guidance you cannot be defeated. 6 His is the journey to accomplishment, and the goal He sets before you He will give you. 7 For He will never deceive God's Son whom He loves with the Love of the Father.

T-12.IV.5. You *will* undertake a journey because you are not at home in this world. 2 And you *will* search for your home whether you realize where it is or not. 3 If you believe it is outside you the search will be futile, for you will be seeking it where it is not. 4 You do not remember how to look within for you do not believe your home is there. 5 Yet the Holy Spirit remembers it for you, and He will guide you to your home because that is His mission. 6 As He fulfills His mission He will teach you yours, for your mission is the same as His. 7 By guiding your brothers home you are but following Him.

T-12.IV.6. Behold the Guide your Father gave you, that you might learn you have eternal life. 2 For death is not your Father's Will nor yours, and whatever is true is the Will of the Father. 3 You pay no price for life for that was given you, but you do pay a price for death, and a very heavy one. 4 If death is your treasure, you will sell everything else to purchase it. 5 And you will believe that you have purchased it, because you have sold everything else. 6 Yet you cannot sell the Kingdom of Heaven. 7 Your inheritance can neither be bought nor sold. 8 There can be no disinherited parts of the Sonship, for God is whole and all His extensions are like Him.

T-12.IV.7. The Atonement is not the price of your wholeness, but it *is* the price of your awareness of your wholeness. 2 For what you chose to "sell" had to be kept for you, since you could not "buy" it back. 3 Yet you must invest in it, not with money but with spirit. 4 For spirit is will, and will is the "price" of the Kingdom. 5 Your inheritance awaits only the recognition that you have been redeemed. 6 The Holy Spirit guides you into life eternal, but you must relinquish your investment in death, or you will not see life though it is all around you.

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