

Welcome to The Little Garden. We present classes in many formats to help with your study of *A Course in Miracles*. Our goal is to inspire students of *A Course in Miracles* to read and study the Course for themselves, and to practice it as written.

[Previous Section](#)

[Next Section](#)

[Table of Contents](#)

[Search the Course](#)

[We invite you to comment on this section.](#)

[The Little Garden Home](#)

IV. Specialness versus Sinlessness

T-24.IV.1. Specialness is a lack of trust in anyone except yourself. 2 Faith is invested in yourself alone. 3 Everything else becomes your enemy; feared and attacked, deadly and dangerous, hated and worthy only of destruction. 4 Whatever gentleness it offers is but deception, but its hate is real. 5 In danger of destruction it must kill, and you are drawn to it to kill it first. 6 And such is guilt's attraction. 7 Here is death enthroned as savior; crucifixion is now redemption, and salvation can only mean destruction of the world, except yourself.

T-24.IV.2. What could the purpose of the body be but specialness? 2 And it is this that makes it frail and helpless in its own defense. 3 It was conceived to make *you* frail and helpless. 4 The goal of separation is its curse. 5 Yet bodies have no goal. 6 Purpose is of

the mind. 7 And minds can change as they desire. 8 What they are, and all their attributes, they cannot change. 9 But what they hold as purpose can be changed, and body states must shift accordingly. 10 Of itself the body can do nothing. 11 See it as means to hurt, and it is hurt. 12 See it as means to heal, and it is healed.

T-24.IV.3. You can but hurt yourself. 2 This has been oft repeated, but is difficult to grasp as yet. 3 To minds intent on specialness it is impossible. 4 Yet to those who wish to heal and not attack, it is quite obvious. 5 The purpose of attack is in the mind, and its effects are felt but where it is. 6 Nor is the mind limited; so must it be that harmful purpose hurts the mind as one. 7 Nothing could make less sense to specialness. 8 Nothing could make more sense to miracles. 9 For miracles are merely change of purpose from hurt to healing. 10 This shift in purpose does "endanger" specialness, but only in the sense that all illusions are "threatened" by the truth. 11 They will not stand before it. 12 Yet what comfort has ever been in them, that you would keep the gift your Father asks from Him, and give it there instead? 13 Given to Him, the universe is yours. 14 Offered to them, no gifts can be returned. 15 What you have given specialness has left you bankrupt and your treasure house barren and empty, with an open door inviting everything that would disturb your peace to enter and destroy.

T-24.IV.4. Earlier I said consider not the means by which salvation is attained, nor how to reach it. 2 But do consider, and consider well, whether it is your wish that you might see your brother sinless. 3 To specialness the answer must be "no." 4 A sinless brother *is* its enemy, while sin, if it were possible, would be its friend. 5 Your brother's sin would justify itself, and give it meaning that the truth denies. 6 All that is real proclaims his sinlessness. 7 All that is false proclaims his sins as real. 8 If he is sinful, then is your reality not real, but just a dream of specialness that lasts an instant, crumbling into dust.

T-24.IV.5. Do not defend this senseless dream, in which God is bereft of what He loves, and you remain beyond salvation. 2 Only this is certain in this shifting world that has no meaning in reality: When peace is not with you entirely, and when you suffer pain of any kind, you have beheld some sin within your brother, and have rejoiced at what you thought was there. 3 Your specialness seemed safe because of it. 4 And thus you saved what you appointed to be your savior, and crucified the one whom God has given you instead. 5 So are you bound with him, for you are one. 6 And so is specialness his "enemy," and yours as well./p>

[Previous Section](#)

[Next Section](#)

[Table of Contents](#)

[Search the Course](#)

[We invite you to comment on this section.](#)

[The Little Garden Home](#)

>