



WAKE-UP AND Go Home

An Interview with best-selling author Gary R. Renard
By Nouk Sanchez

“What would you do if you were sitting quietly in your living room when a mysterious couple appeared from nowhere – and then told you they were ‘ascended masters’ who had come to reveal some shocking secrets of existence and teach you the miraculous powers of advanced forgiveness?”

- From The Disappearance of the Universe, Gary R. Renard.

Nouk: *What do your teachers say about ‘A Course in Miracles’ and how is it different from other wisdom teachings?*

Gary: A Course in Miracles (ACIM) is saying that of the two seeming worlds; one being the world of God and two, being the world of man, that only the world of God is true because it is a non-dualistic system.

There may seem to be two worlds but in fact there is really only one. Some mistakenly believe that A Course in Miracles is a dualistic system because it talks about both. What it says is that only one is true which is Heaven; it is actually

a non-dualistic system. This makes it different from virtually all other spiritual teachings in the world. Most spiritual teachings have God creating something other than Himself and then interacting with it.

A Course in Miracles would say that this idea is psychotic because it gives us a God who is insane. It gives us a God who rather than being perfect love, made a world that includes hatred, anger, fear and death.

These ideas are a function of opposites because there can be no death in Heaven. Death can only exist when you have a

seeming opposite to Heaven. That is the madness of duality because it is what people believe is true but which God knows nothing about. That is because people are dreaming what A Course in Miracles would call, ‘the dream of death’. When they awaken to what they really are which is what real enlightenment is, they will see that the dream they thought was their life never truly existed.

Nouk: *There can be no true enlightenment without undoing the ego. Forgiveness is the means by which A Course in Miracles teaches that we ‘undo the ego’, so can you tell us what your teachers say about forgiveness?*



Therefore, to forgive another is to forgive yourself

Gary: First of all on a cosmic level the ego is simply the idea that we have an individual identity that has separated itself from its Source. That idea is the 'false collective' us. There is just one ego appearing as many.

Forgiveness as taught by the great Masters like Jesus, undoes the ego. It accomplishes that by bringing people to a position of cause rather than effect.

The traditional kind of forgiveness which the world practices, keeps the separation intact by seeing others as having really done something. That idea is like the old Newtonian physics where you have a subject and object that are separate from each other.

By seeing others as separate, it keeps the idea of you as separate being real in your unconscious mind. It also keeps you in a position of being at the mercy of the effects of the world. You are then a victim of the world you see.

Real forgiveness as taught by the Masters like Jesus and Buddha, would see everything as being one and connected thus there is not really anyone else who

is separate from you. Therefore, to forgive another is to forgive yourself.

This is more in harmony with the new physics because it teaches that you can not really separate one thing from something else. This puts you in a position of 'cause' rather than effect because you realize that if you are everywhere then the world is not being done to you; it is being done by you.

Thus you begin to realize that the world is a projection of your own mind; one of your own making so you can forgive people not because they have done something but because they have not really done anything!

That kind of forgiveness we will call Quantum forgiveness as it undoes the idea of separation (the ego) in your unconscious mind. This is because of an important law of the mind which A Course in Miracles puts this way, 'As you see him you will see yourself. As you treat him you will treat yourself. As you think of him you will think of yourself.'

Never forget this, for in him you will find yourself or lose yourself.'

There is no getting away from this. If they are guilty, you are guilty and that is what you will believe about yourself. But if they are innocent, then you are innocent because how you see the other person is simply going into your unconscious mind as a message about yourself.

Nouk: *So, is this the kind of forgiveness that Jesus not only taught but used as the catalyst by which to go Home? It seems very different than conventional forgiveness.*

Gary: Yes. It is through this kind of forgiveness that we realize the people we see out there are just split aspects of our own mind.

A mind that thinks it is separate, but that we can now allow the Holy Spirit to heal; to rejoin with our self. You know, when Jesus went through life 2000 years ago, forgiving everybody and seeing everybody as totally innocent, by doing that, He was looking past the body to what they really are, which is spirit, and every time He did that it was as though He was rejoining with Himself and becoming whole again. In that process of becoming whole again, He was

actually awakening and returning to reality. When the Buddha said, 'I am awake', he meant that he had awakened.

Jesus, in 'A Course in Miracles', is teaching us to awaken from what is the equivalent of a dream and return to what we really are, which is this idea of perfect oneness with God.

Nouk: *Your two best-selling books are inspired by the wisdom of two ascended masters who visited you over a period of 13 years. Can you tell us about them and what they taught you?*

Gary: They appeared to me as people because they wanted the conversation we had, to be human. They took advanced spiritual teachings and put them in a way that I could accept and understand.

They said they were appearing to me from the future. One was a beautiful woman and the other was a handsome man. They said they were appearing to me the way they looked in their final life-time, but in a previous incarnation, 2000 years ago, they were two of Jesus' original disciples. The woman was Saint Thomas and the man was Saint Thaddeus.

They gave me a different idea about the teachings of the Master. Some of these teachings can still be found in the Gospel of Thomas.

They took nine years to give me the material for the first book (The Disappearance of the Universe) and the

second book (Your Immortal Reality), covers another four years of my life. You can see them teaching me in such a way that I am able to slowly but surely apply the teachings to my everyday life.

This makes the books very practical because anybody can do the same thing after reading them. It also turns out that the Jesus we see in the Gospel of Thomas is teaching the same thing as He does today in A Course in Miracles.

My teachers eventually got into A Course in Miracles in detail, as well as doing something that is very rare; they presented the Course in such a way that people can now read it and understand it for themselves.

Nouk: *Many say that disillusionment precedes enlightenment. Do you agree?*

Gary: Absolutely. I think that at some point one has to become like the prodigal son in Jesus' story. You have to realize the world is futile because of its impermanence. Then you discover that the only solution is to go Home because Heaven is permanent ecstasy and the world is ecstasy followed by horror.

That is the difference between non-duality and duality. One is permanent and the other is false.

That is what Jesus was talking about when He spoke of building upon the rock instead of upon the sand. The ironic thing is that you do not have to give up

They said they were appearing to me from the future. One was a beautiful woman and the other was a handsome man. They said they were appearing to me the way they looked in their final life-time, but in a previous incarnation, 2000 years ago, they were two of Jesus' original disciples. The woman was Saint Thomas and the man was Saint Thaddeus.

the world at the level of the physical. You can live a normal life and that is because Quantum forgiveness is done at the level of the mind which is 'cause' and nothing whatsoever to do with the level of the world, which is 'effect'.

That is why A Course in Miracles says this is a Course in cause and not effect. By dealing with the cause you are in a

It is definitely not about giving up the world; it is simply about changing the way you look at it.

position of power. You have the power to choose to go Home to reality instead of staying trapped in illusions. On the way Home you start to have experiences that tell you what Home is like. Once you have those experiences, there is no turning back because there is no comparison between the joy of Heaven and the world you used to think was real.

Nouk: *Should we change our lives? Should we be more disciplined about following the path?*

Gary: We need to deal with the problem where it really is, which is in the mind; it does not mean that you change anything about what you are doing in the world unless you feel guided to do so by the Holy Spirit.

Here is what I mean by that: the teachings of an advanced spiritual teaching like A Course in Miracles are always applied at the level of the mind.

Why? Because that is where the problem is. So if you are spending time working on the effect, well, that is kind of like moving around the furniture in a burning house. It might make the house look better temporarily, but you are not dealing with the real problem, which is the mind.

At the same time, if the world is not real, then that does not mean that you should change what you are doing in it or that you have to give up anything in it.

If you think that you have to give up something in the world, then that is making it just as real to your mind as if you want it. It is definitely not about giving up the world; it is simply about changing the way you look at it.

In closing, I would like to say that it is important for us to remember that classic spirituality is not about fixing up our lives. It is about 'waking-up' from our

lives – and that is not just a small distinction; it is everything.

I do not say there is anything wrong with other approaches because all paths lead to God in the end. But I think people can save themselves a lot of time in awakening from the cycle of birth and death and end reincarnation if they make that the goal.

Ironically, when they do that, they will also have a better life in the process because now they are dealing with something that has real power, which is being at cause instead of something that has little power, which is dealing with effect. This is the approach of 'A Course in Miracles'; dealing with the real power, which is being at cause.



Gary R. Renard, author of, *'The Disappearance of the Universe'* and *'Your Immortal Reality'*. Gary

travels the world conducting workshops, for more details visit: www.garyrenard.com

Nouk Sanchez is co-author with Tomas Vieira of *'Take Me to Truth, Undoing the Ego'*, release Sept.2007. Visit: www.takemetotruth.com