



All Aspects (Us) of the Christ Are Equal

“The leader and the follower emerge as SEPARATE roles, each seeming to possess advantages you would not want to lose. So in their fusion there appears to be the hope of satisfaction and of peace.

You see yourself divided into both these roles, forever split between the two. And every friend or enemy becomes a means to help you save yourself from this. Perhaps you call it love. Perhaps you think that it is murder justified at last. **You hate the one you gave the leader's role when YOU would have it, and you hate as well his NOT assuming it, at times you want to let the follower in you arise, and give away the role of leadership.** And this is what you made your brother FOR, and learned to think that this his purpose IS. Unless he serves it, he has not fulfilled the function that was given him by you. And thus he merits death, because he has no purpose and no usefulness to you.

And what of him? What does he want of YOU? What COULD he want, but what you want of him? Herein is life as easily as death, for what you choose you choose as well for him. Two calls you make to him, as he to you. Between these two IS choice, because from them there IS a different outcome. **If he be the leader or the follower to you, it matters not, for you have chosen death.** But if he calls for death or calls for life, for hate or for forgiveness and for help, is NOT the same in outcome. Hear the one, and you are separate from him, and are lost. But hear the other, and you join with him, and in your answer is salvation found. The voice you hear in him is but your own. What does he ask you for? And listen well. For he is asking what will come to you, because you see an image of yourself, and hear your voice requesting what you want. Before you answer, pause to think of this:

*The answer that I give my brother is
What I am asking for. And what I learn
Of him is what I learn about myself.*

Then let us wait an instant and be still, forgetting everything we thought we heard; remembering how much we do not know. **This brother neither leads nor follows us, but walks beside us on the selfsame road.** He is like us, as near or far away from what we want as we will let him be.

We make no gains he does not make with us, and we fall back if he does not advance. Take not his hand in anger but in love, for in his progress do you count your own. And we go separately along the way unless you keep him safely by your side. BECAUSE he is your equal in God's Love will YOU be saved from all appearances, and answer to the Christ Who calls to you. Be still and listen. Think not ancient thoughts. Forget the dismal lessons that you learned about this Son of God who calls to you. **Christ calls to all with EQUAL tenderness, seeing no leaders and no followers, and hearing but ONE Answer to them all.** Because He hears one Voice, he cannot hear a DIFFERENT answer from the one He gave when God appointed Him His only Son.

Be very still an instant. Come without all thought of what you ever learned before, and put aside all images you made. The old will fall away before the new, without your opposition or intent. There will be no attack upon the things you thought were precious, and in need of care. There will be no assault upon your wish to hear a call that never has been made. **Nothing will hurt you in this holy place to which you come to listen silently, and learn the truth of what you really want. No more than this will you be asked to learn.** But as you hear it, you will understand you need but come away WITHOUT the thoughts you did not want, and that were NEVER true.

Forgive your brother ALL appearances, which are but ancient lessons that you taught yourself about the sinfulness in YOU. Hear but his call for mercy and release from all the fearful images he holds of what HE is, and of what YOU must be. **He is afraid to walk with you, and thinks perhaps a bit behind, a bit ahead, would be a safer place for him to be.** Can YOU make progress if you think the same, advancing only when he would step back, and falling back when he would go ahead? For so do you forget the journey's goal which is but to decide to walk WITH him, so neither leads nor follows. Thus it is a way you go together, NOT alone. **And in THIS choice is learning's outcome changed, for Christ has been reborn to BOTH of you.**” ACIM urtext