

## Miracles and Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs



“Sex & miracles are both WAYS OF RELATING... **Relating is a way of achieving an outcome.**”

(Second) MP #12: “Miracles are thought-**creations**. Thought can **create lower-order or higher-order realities**. This is the basic distinction between intellectualization and thinking. One creates the physical, and the other the spiritual...”

MP #15: “Each day should be devoted to miracles. (God created time so that man could use it creatively, and convince himself of his own ability to create. Time is a teaching device, and a means to an end. It will cease when it is no longer useful for facilitating learning.)”

“What cannot be perceived is hardly the right means for improving perception.”

(Second) MP # 29: “The miracle restores the Soul to its fullness. **By atoning for lack**, it establishes perfect protection.”

MP #37: “**A MAJOR contribution of miracles** is their strength in releasing man from his misplaced sense of **isolation, deprivation, and lack**. They are affirmations of Sonship, which is a state of completion & abundance.”

“You never really **WANTED** peace before, so there was no point in knowing how to get it. This is an example of the “need to know” principle...No kind of knowledge is acquired by anyone **unless he wants it**, or believes in some way he **NEEDS** it. A psychologist does NOT need a lesson on the **hierarchy of needs** as such, but like everyone else, he **DOES** need to understand his own.

This particular set of notes will be the only one which deals with the concept of “lack”, because while the concept does not exist in the Creation of God, it is **VERY** apparent in the creations of man. It is, in fact, the essential difference. A **need implies lack**, by definition. It involves the recognition, conscious or unconscious, (and at times, fortunately, superconscious) that you would be better off in a state which is somehow different from the one you are in.

Until the Separation, which is a better term than the Fall, nothing was lacking. This meant that **man had no needs at all**. If he had not deprived himself, he would never have experienced them. After the Separation, **needs became the most powerful source of motivation for human action**. **All behavior is essentially motivated by needs**, but behavior itself is not a Divine attribute. The body is the mechanism for behavior. (Ask any behaviorist, and he's **RIGHT**, too.)

You tell your own classes that nobody would bother even to get up and go from one place to another if he did not think he would somehow be better off. This is very true. Believing that he **COULD** be “better off” is the reason why man has the mechanism for behavior at his disposal. This is why the Bible says “By their **DEEDS** ye shall know them.”

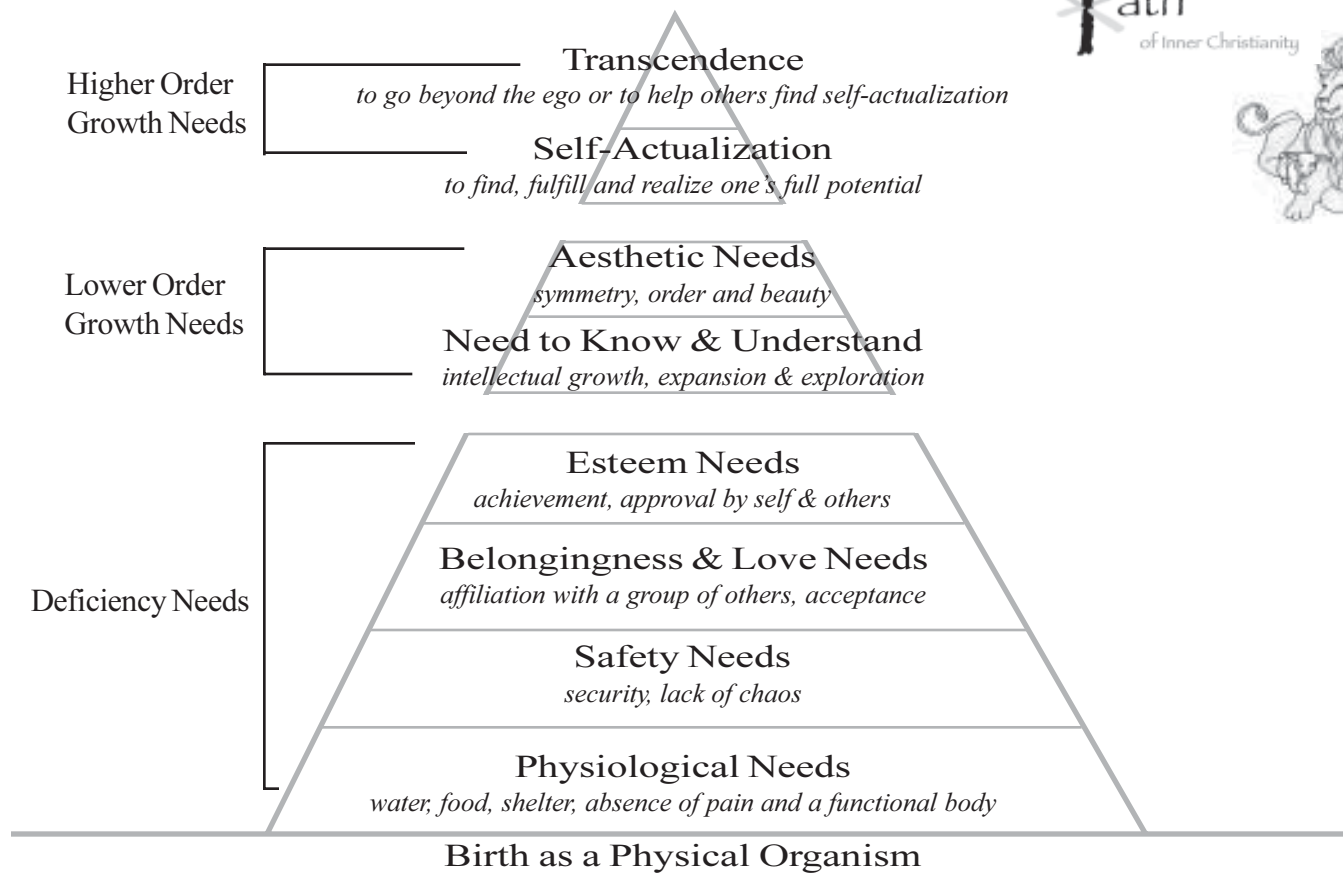
A man acts according to the particular **hierarchy of needs** he establishes for himself. His **hierarchy**, in turn, depends on his perception of what he **IS**, i.e., **what he LACKS**. This **establishes his own rules for what he needs to know**.

**Separation from God is the only lack** he really needs to correct. But his Separation would never have occurred if he had not distorted his perception of truth, and thus **perceived himself as lacking**. The concept of **ANY** sort of **need HIERARCHY** arose because, having made this fundamental error, **he had already fragmented himself into levels with DIFFERENT needs**. As he integrates, **HE** becomes one, and his **ONE** need becomes one accordingly. Unified need produces unified action, because it produces lack of ambivalence.

The concept of **need hierarchy**, a corollary to the original error, **requires correction at its OWN level, before the error of levels itself can be corrected**. Man cannot operate (or behave) effectively while he operates at split levels. But as long as he does so, **he must introduce correction from the bottom UP**.

This is because he now operates in space, where “up” and “down” are meaningful terms. Ultimately, of course, space is as meaningless as time. The concept is really one of space-time **BELIEF**. The physical world exists only because man can use it to correct his **UNBELIEF**, which placed him in it originally. As long as man **KNEW** he did not need anything, the whole **device** was unnecessary.”

# Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs



“Abraham Maslow (1954) is known for establishing the theory of a **hierarchy of needs**...an alternative to the depressing determinism of Freud and Skinner...people who are deprived of lower needs such as safety may defend themselves by violent means. He did not believe that humans are violent because they enjoy violence. Or that they lie, cheat and steal because they enjoy it.

According to Maslow, there are general types of needs (physiological, safety, love and esteem) that **must be satisfied before a person can act unselfishly**. He called these needs “deficiency needs.” As long as we are motivated to satisfy these cravings, we are moving towards growth, toward self-actualization. Satisfying needs is healthy; blocking gratification makes us sick or evil.

According to Maslow, when the deficiency needs are met:

‘At once other (and higher) needs emerge, and these, rather than physiological hungers, dominate the organism. And when these in turn are satisfied, again new (and still higher) needs emerge, and so on. As one desire is satisfied, another pops up to take its place.’”

“According to Maslow, an individual is ready to act upon the growth needs if and **only if the deficiency needs are met.**”

Maslow's work has been described as “**one of the most important contributions to the study and understanding of human behavior and motivation.**”\*

Sources: 1. William G. Huitt, February 2004, <http://chiron.valdosta.edu/whuitt/col/regsys/maslow.html>  
2. <http://web.utk.edu/~gwynne/maslow.HTM> \*ALL emphasis in **bold** is mine