

A Course in Miracles and The Way of Mastery

by Hugh McFarlane

The Way of Mastery is published by Shanti Christo Foundation whose mission is to reserve the teachings of Jeshua ben Joseph (Jesus), and through publication offer their availability to the world.

As with *A Course in Miracles* (ACIM), *The Way of Mastery* was written without claim to its authorship by any person appearing as a body.

When comparing ACIM and *The Way of Mastery*, a good place to begin is to consider how closely related the titles are, this might begin to give a hint to the oneness and integrity of these two wonderful works of spiritual revelation.

Beginning with the first part of each title, “A Course” and “The Way,” it isn’t difficult to see that “course” could be described as “way” or another word that could describe both is “path.”

Looking at the second part of each title, “in Miracles” and “of Mastery,” it doesn’t take much of a stretch to see the relatedness of the two words and if we juxtapose the two titles we get “The Way of Miracles” and “A Course in Mastery”.

The titles are just the beginning of a beautifully familiar essence and flavor of the Voice for God, coming to us in diverse forms to fit every individual spark of our Self.

As for the teachings, the same relationship can be seen in terms of two different expressions of the same thing. The old saying, “Different strokes for different folks” could describe what would appear to be two different approaches to the same truth.

Each has its own means and method of cutting through the thick fog of the ego to help us awaken to the truth of our reality as one Son, absolutely safe in the heart of God, one in being and in will.

If one can get past any judgment as to the source of the two books/works then we are left with just our own sense of what resonates with us at the time. If we look at truth, and if we could agree on certain principles regarding truth then the books themselves can be simply viewed as a means and not an end in themselves.

The following is a list of principles that most students of ACIM are likely to acknowledge about truth:

Only truth is true and truth is true always.

Truth stands completely on its own regardless of any specific form of expression.

Truth cannot be described.

Truth can only be experienced.

With these principles as a basis, then whatever book or system that appears to resonate at the time does not itself represent truth, which can only exist as itself. It simply points us within where we might experience it for ourselves.

As we awaken from the dream of being separate, the path can appear to be long with volumes of material to choose from to help us along our way. Discovering something that resonates with us can be like shining a light or turning up the wick on a lantern.

The Way of Mastery is yet another expression that points us in the direction of full recognition of the truth of our own reality, which has never changed. Its approach is somewhat different from ACIM and many students have found that it has helped move past fear and profoundly transform their experience. In fact many who have found ACIM to be difficult to grasp, have found *The Way of Mastery* to be simpler for them to put into practical application for their lives. Yet neither book is necessarily better than another, they are simply two different methods

of approaching the process of getting the same message past the fog of illusion.

At the heart of both ACIM and *The Way of Mastery* is the fundamental teaching that there could only be one Voice. That is the Voice for God which is in truth our own voice.

Hugh McFarlane is a practicing student of ACIM for 20 years and is a member of the Board of Directors for Shanti Christo Foundation www.shantichristo.com. He currently lives in St. Petersburg, Florida with his wife Debbie.