



CIRCLE OF ATONEMENT

Dedicated to *A Course in Miracles*

Jesus' Missing Piece

ACIM RADIO EPISODE 1 GUIDE

In our first episode of ACIM Radio, we talked about the Circle of Atonement's ethos of representing *A Course in Miracles* as accurately as possible, and how this is rooted in our view that the Course really was written by Jesus and represents a restatement in contemporary language of his unique message from long ago.

In addition, Robert discussed his original vision for the Circle of Atonement, which was to be an organization that included a variety of viewpoints on the Course. However, what became clear over time was that the Course itself had everything a student needs. It is not a teaching, but a program—a *course*. Therefore, it only made sense that we should come together on and draw out what it was saying, rather than focus on what different human voices wanted to say.

We also became increasingly serious about the idea that the Course really did come from Jesus. We realized that he stood for a radical perspective two thousand years ago, one of unconditional love, from God to us and from us to others.

We came to believe that this message was the missing piece in the jigsaw puzzle of the world, that the world needs this wisdom more than anything else. We also came to believe that *A Course in Miracles* is a bold new presentation of that missing piece, and thus another attempt on Jesus' part to offer it to the world.

This view grants enormous significance to the Course, however small its presence may be in the world so far. Our mission thus became to do whatever we could to help the Course accomplish its purpose. Helen Schucman received guidance that spoke of the Course reaching "from the paper on which it was written into the hearts for which it was intended." We wanted to be vehicles through which that could happen.

To do that, we believe that we have to first and foremost interpret the Course in a way that is as close to the intended meaning as possible. This is in line with that same guidance that Helen received, which said that "It must develop without error," which meant the Course must develop with "no misunderstanding and no misinterpretation."

Our goal, then, is to draw out its teachings accurately, so that those teachings can do the work in the minds and lives of students that they were intended to do. The Course sees its ideas as "mighty forces" that, if taken in properly, can induce profound healing and change in our minds. That, indeed, is the whole purpose of the Course.

Our role at the Circle is to simply aid in that process, to help those ideas reach—without misunderstanding and misinterpretation—from the paper on which they were written into the hearts for which they were intended.

Timestamp

The following is a timestamp of episode 1 for your convenience.

Announcements	:40
Origin of the Circle	3:30
A culture of fidelity	5:30
Jesus as author of the Course	9:15
Historical Jesus and his vision	13:00
Jesus' original teachings and ACIM	17:30
The "missing piece" of our world	22:30
Why didn't we accept Jesus' vision?	28:30
Jesus as a threat to Christianity	35:20
Jesus' vision and the Course	37:30
Interpreting as Jesus intended	41:00
Mission of the Circle moving forward	46:00
Closing remarks	53:20

Reflection questions

We invite you to journal on the questions below and use them as conversation starters in your ACIM study group if you have one.

1. If you had to choose one word to describe your connection to Jesus what would it be? How has your image of Jesus influenced the way you relate to him – or not?
2. What do you think of Jesus ushering in a new vision of God as an unconditionally loving Father Who excludes no one from His blessings? After listening to episode 1, do you agree that demonstrating unconditional love ourselves is the “missing piece” in the healing of the world?
3. Do you believe Jesus is the author of the Course? Why or why not?



Written by
ROBERT PERRY

Listener q&a

Q: Son, Son of God, Christ...sometimes I get confused as to whether we are referring to Jesus or the whole Sonship. Is there an easy way to tell?

Actually, the terms "Son" (as in Son of God) and "Christ" in the Course do not refer specifically to Jesus at all. They can have several different meanings, depending on how they are used. "Son" can refer to an individual Son of God, as we see here: "Every mind must be a Son of God" (T-2.XII.7:2). "Son" can refer generically to any Son of God: "It is impossible the Son of God be merely driven by events outside him" (T-21.II.3:1). "Son" can refer to the totality of the Sonship:

"This is the vision of the Son of God, whom you know well" (T-21.I.11:1). Finally, "Son" can refer to Christ, the Self the entire Sonship shares: "For Christ is the Son of God, who lives in His Creator and shines with His glory" (T-11.IV.7:3).

How do we tell which of these four meanings is intended in a given sentence? We just have to look at the context and ask ourselves which meaning makes sense and which ones do not. This may sound like a lengthy process, but the meaning of "Son" is usually immediately apparent.

To submit a question or suggest a topic for a future episode of ACIM Radio, please email info@circleofa.org.

*There is no death because
the Son of God is like his
Father. Nothing you can
do can change eternal
love. Forget your dreams
of sin and guilt, and come
with me instead to share
the resurrection of God's
Son. And bring with you
all those whom He has
sent to you to care for,
as I care for you.*

ACIM (CE) C-4.6:1-4



Go deeper

- Visit our website: circleofa.org
- Order the Complete and Annotated Edition (CE) of *A Course in Miracles*: circleofa.org/the-course/
- Join our Course Companions online learning community: coursecompanions.com.
- Help us share *A Course in Miracles* with the world: circleofa.org/support

Connect

- <https://www.facebook.com/circleofatonement>
- <https://www.instagram.com/circleofatonement/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/c/circleofatonement/>

Review

If you enjoyed this podcast and episode guide, we would greatly appreciate a quick iTunes review. Please search for “Circle of Atonement” in the podcast app on your iOS device and scroll to the “reviews” section. Star ratings are welcome and we also invite you to click “write a review” and share something you’ve learned from ACIM Radio. Reviews are very important and help us reach more listeners like you. Thank you in advance for your support.