

# **“The Holy Encounter”**

## **(T-8.II)**

**“Everyone is looking for himself and the power and glory he thinks he has lost” (7:3).**  
This is the universal search. It is synonymous with looking for one’s place in the Kingdom.

### **The ego’s approach**

**“The ego tries to find them in *yourself*, because it does not know where to look” (7:6).**  
This is what the ego has always done. It is a surprise, then, that this is what contemporary spirituality tells us to do?

**The ego tries to find them in yourself by finding the *opposite* in others.**  
Looking down on them seems to elevate us.

**“The Kingdom cannot be found alone, and you who are the Kingdom cannot find yourself alone” (8:6)**  
Looking for your power and glory in yourself alone simply doesn’t work.

**You can realize the ego’s approach doesn’t work “if you are willing to look at what the ego has made of you” (9:4).**  
After all of your looking for power and glory in yourself, how much do you feel it? Unless you face the cost of the ego’s approach, you won’t abandon it.

### **The holy encounter**

**“Whenever two Sons of God meet, they are given another chance at salvation” (6:6).**

**See power and glory in the other. “Give him *his* place in the Kingdom” (8:5).**

**“He will be imprisoned or released according to your decision” (8:3).**  
We thus have a responsibility toward him. The Course says to us, “Never forget your responsibility to him” (8:4).

**By seeing power and glory in him, you will find them in yourself. “Give him *his* place in the Kingdom, and you will have *yours*” (8:5).**

**This is because the way you see, treat, and think of him is how you will see, treat, and think of yourself.**  
“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” (6:2-4).

**This is because he is you.**

“Having made this choice, you will begin to learn and understand why, when you have met someone else, you have thought he *was* someone else. And every holy encounter in which you enter fully will teach you that this is not so” (10:1-2).

**Exercise**

Think of someone you have recently had an encounter with or will soon have an encounter with. Note how you see this person, how you think of this person. Do you see power and glory in him or her? Note also how you treat this person. How much respect and honor do you give this person?

Now repeat silently to him or her:

*As I see you I will see myself.*

*As I treat you I will treat myself.*

*As I think of you I will think of myself.*

*I see God's power and glory in you.*

*If I give you your place in the Kingdom, I will have mine.*