

# **“The ‘Dynamics’ of the Ego”**

(T-11.V)

**1. We need to look at our hidden ego dynamics, so that we can let them go.**

We need to look into the unconscious and uncover the hidden source of our suffering.

We are ready to look more closely at the ego’s thought system, because together we have the lamp that will dispel it...Let us be very calm in doing this, for we are merely looking honestly for truth. The “dynamics” of the ego will be our lesson for a while, for we must look first at this to look beyond it, since you have made it real. We will undo this error quietly together, and then look beyond it to truth. (Paragraph 1)

**2. We can look without fear, because the ego has no dynamism, no power.**

“Dynamics” implies the power to *do* something, and the whole separation fallacy lies in the belief that the ego has the power to do *anything*. The ego is fearful because you believe this, but the truth is very simple: *All power is of God*. What is not of Him has no power to do anything. (Paragraph 3)

**3. The ego’s driving, single-minded goal is ego autonomy.**

To have “autonomy” means to be independent and self-governing, not governed by any outside power. It has to do with power and with freedom. Ego autonomy includes both being independent of the authority of others and independent of God’s authority.

The ego’s goal quite explicitly is *ego autonomy*. From the beginning, then, its purpose is to be separate, sufficient unto itself, and independent of any power except its own. (Paragraph 4)

**4. This autonomy brings an enormous amount of fear.**

This fear comes from believing that you have become an attacker and have even attacked God. And it comes from the aloneness that is part and parcel of autonomy.

By believing that you have successfully attacked truth, you are believing that attack has power. Very simply, then, you have become afraid of *yourself*, and no one wills to learn what he believes will destroy him. (Paragraph 10)

**5. If we will look at how afraid we are, we will let go of the ego. For it promises power (autonomy) yet delivers powerlessness (fear).**

The ego can and does allow you to regard yourself as supercilious, unbelieving, “lighthearted,” distant, emotionally shallow, callous, uninvolved, and even desperate, but not really *afraid*. Minimizing fear, but not its undoing, is the ego’s constant effort, and is indeed a skill at which it is very ingenious. How can it preach separation without

upholding it through fear, and would you listen if you recognized that this is what it is doing? (Paragraph 9)

**6. We need to accept that we will only find true autonomy—true freedom—in God.**

In our true state, we are joined with God in a perfect union of wills. But we are independent of all else—since there *is* nothing else.

God is as dependent on you as you are on Him, because His autonomy encompasses yours, and is therefore incomplete without it. You can only establish your autonomy by identifying with Him and fulfilling your function as it exists in truth. (Paragraph 11)