

“God’s Higher Court”

T-5.VIII

3The ego speaks in judgment, and the Holy Spirit reverses its decisions, much as a Supreme Court has the power to reverse a lower court’s decision about the laws of this world. (1:3)

6Having made you afraid, you do not appeal to the Higher Court, because you believe its judgment would be against you. (2:6)

4The Higher Court will not condemn you. 3It will merely dismiss the case against you. 6There can be no case against a child of God, and every witness to guilt in God’s creations is bearing false witness to God Himself.

9 Appeal everything you believe gladly to God’s Own Higher Court, because it speaks for Him, and therefore speaks truly. 2It will dismiss the case against you, however carefully you have built it. 3The case may be foolproof, but it is not God-proof. 4The Voice for God will not hear it at all, because He can only witness truly. 5His verdict will always be “Thine is the Kingdom,” because He was given you to remind you of what you *are*. (8:4-9:5)

The lower court

The ego “speaks first” by quickly interpreting everything you see in judgmental terms. Then it saves all these judgments as crimes and uses them as evidence against you. With them, it slowly builds a foolproof case against you.

Then it takes you to court, so to speak.

In that court, you face an unscrupulous prosecuting attorney (the ego) and a hanging judge (the ego).

Your court-appointed attorney seems to be your friend.

He tells you that you’re innocent, that you always had good reason for your judgments and actions, and that you’ve got a good case.

He also tells you that this court is your friend and will give you the best, most lenient verdict you could possibly get.

And that there is no point in appealing its decision to the Supreme Court—God’s Voice—because that court is far more harsh in its sentences than this lower court.

But your attorney is *also* the ego and thus is secretly in league with the prosecuting attorney and the judge.

You are mercilessly convicted in the lower court.

Yet the lower court is not the final word.

The Higher Court

But you *should* appeal the ruling of the lower court to the Higher Court.

Contrary to all your expectations, the Higher Court is more just, more loving, and more authoritative.

It sees you more deeply than you see yourself.
And it has power to overturn the biased verdict of the lower court.
And that's what it does.
What a reversal this is to the traditional view.
There, God opens the book of your deeds to carefully weigh whether you should go into the lake of fire.
Here, God's Voice refuses even to open the book, and instead openly declares "Thine is the Kingdom."

Exercise

Picture yourself being led, with feet and hands in shackles, into a courtroom, God's Own Higher Court. As you are seated, you remember that you have already been convicted by a lower court of crimes against humanity and God. You, however, have appealed this conviction to God's Higher Court. This is your appeal hearing.

In front of you stands the prosecuting attorney, the lawyer in the case against you. To your astonishment, the lawyer looks exactly like you. You realize that the lawyer *is* you, in a sense—the false you. It is your ego, the part of your mind that is bent on tossing you in jail and throwing away the key.

In his hands, the prosecuting attorney holds the case against you. It consists of several thick binders, in which is every judgmental thought, unkind word, and hurtful action you have ever had or done, along with all the effects they had on anyone, directly or indirectly. You feel a sense of horror at what is in those binders. Your heart sinks at the prospect of what awaits you.

The prosecutor approaches the bench, holding those binders, declaring your case is foolproof and placing the binders dramatically on the bench in front of the judge.

Behind the bench is the judge, but the judge is simply a large radiant light. You realize that this is the Holy Spirit appearing in a form you can understand. You might see the form of Jesus in this light.

Out of the radiant light that is the judge, you hear a voice. Hear it sounding however you think God's voice would sound. He speaks directly to you:

*This case may be foolproof, but it is not God-proof.
Every witness to your guilt is bearing false witness against Me.
Although you have built this case up very carefully, I will not hear it.
I am dismissing the case against you.
My verdict is:*

THINE IS THE KINGDOM.

You hear God say, "This court is adjourned." The case against you vanishes, as you hear a single pounding of the gavel.