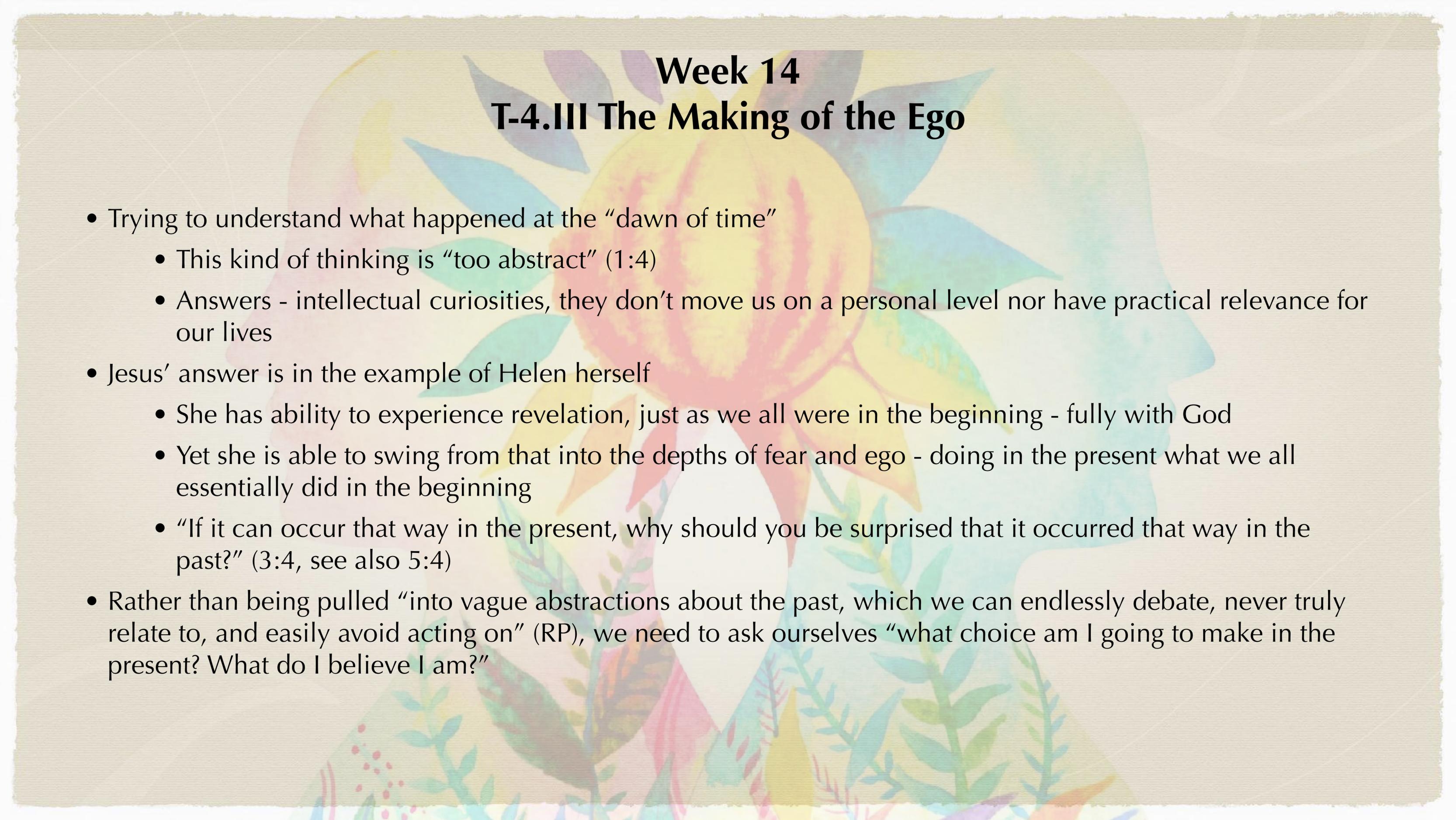


Week 14

T-4.II The Devoted Teacher

- Bill sees act of teaching as being all about how it makes him look, how it affects his image of himself
 - “He is concerned with the effect of his ego on other egos, and he therefore interprets their interaction as a means of ego preservation” (11:2)
 - * If they approve of his image, he’ll be raised high, but then will feel separate from them
 - * If they disapprove, he’ll feel less separate, but then will feel depressed about being a worthless teacher
 - As long as we think our worth is on the line, we cannot be devoted to anyone
 - The solution: Your worth is not established by what “you do or think or will or make”. Your worth was established by God (15:1, 14:2)
- Jesus says he can step in and help us if we’ll let him
 - “If you are willing to renounce the role of guardian of your thought system and open it to me, I will correct it very gently and lead you home.” (8:7)
 - “I will teach with you and live with you if you will think with me.” (10:4)
 - “The reason why I can be entrusted with your body and your ego is simply because this enables *you* not to be concerned with them, and *me* to teach you their unimportance.” (24:1)



Week 14

T-4.III The Making of the Ego

- Trying to understand what happened at the “dawn of time”
 - This kind of thinking is “too abstract” (1:4)
 - Answers - intellectual curiosities, they don’t move us on a personal level nor have practical relevance for our lives
- Jesus’ answer is in the example of Helen herself
 - She has ability to experience revelation, just as we all were in the beginning - fully with God
 - Yet she is able to swing from that into the depths of fear and ego - doing in the present what we all essentially did in the beginning
 - “If it can occur that way in the present, why should you be surprised that it occurred that way in the past?” (3:4, see also 5:4)
- Rather than being pulled “into vague abstractions about the past, which we can endlessly debate, never truly relate to, and easily avoid acting on” (RP), we need to ask ourselves “what choice am I going to make in the present? What do I believe I am?”

Week 14

T-4.IV The Ego's Need to Confirm Itself

- The ego's driving force is the scarcity principle - the belief we are lacking within and need to fill ourselves with things outside us. (But the truth of who we are is always abundant. It is the ego that is lacking, and what it specifically lacks is a sense of *reality*.)
- It tries to fill this lack through things like physical pleasures, comparing itself to others, and giving to get
 - * "All appetites are "getting" mechanisms representing ego needs to confirm itself." (4:1)
 - * "The ego never gives out of abundance, because it was made as a substitute for it." (3:6)
 - * "The ego literally lives by comparisons." (3:4)
 - * "The ego is the belief of the mind that it is completely on its own." (5:5)
- None of this will ever work because the spirit will never confirm the ego's existence
 - * "While the ego is equally unaware of the spirit, it does perceive itself as rejected by something which is greater than itself." (6:4)
- The ego is fundamentally *not* real, so it can never convince itself that it *is* real.
- "Salvation is nothing more than 'right-mindedness'. The ego cannot survive without judgment, and is laid aside accordingly. The mind then has only one direction in which it can move." (9:2, 4-5)
- The directions the mind will take are "dictated by the thought system to which it adheres." (10:1)

Week 14

T-4.V The Calm Being of God's Kingdom

- The pull of God: In our superconscious mind lies the full awareness of God
 - From the superconscious, impulses stream toward our conscious mind so that we may experience the love of God and know God in direct awareness
- The ego is threatened by this pull, blocks it from reaching consciousness, and pushes it down into the unconscious where our baser instincts reside, placing them side by side and seeing them as the same.
 - We have to control our baser instincts so they don't ruin our lives
 - We need to keep a lid on the pull of God. Otherwise, it may cause us to do foolish and disastrous things.
- Our job is to reverse what the ego has done - we must take the lid off of the pull of God and allow God's love to fill our conscious mind
 - * "The reason you need my help is because you have repressed your own guide (superconscious impulses) and therefore need guidance. My role is to separate the true from the false in your own unconscious, so truth can break through the barriers the ego has set up and shine into your mind." (6:1-2)
 - * "The ego arose from the separation, and its continued existence depends on a continuing belief in the separation." (7:2)

Week 14

T-4.V The Calm Being of God's Kingdom

Asking for Jesus' help

- “Love will enter immediately into any mind which truly wants it, but it must want it truly. And this means that it wants it without ambivalence.” (10:3)
- We must ask for the immeasurable gifts that are for us. “This is not a condition as the ego sets conditions. It is the glorious condition of what you are. No force except your own will is strong enough or worthy enough to guide you. In this you are as free as God, and must remain so forever.” (11:5-8)
- “Let us ask the Father in my name to keep you mindful of His love for you and yours for Him.” (12:1)
- “You retain thousands of little scraps of meanness which prevent the Holy One from entering. Light cannot penetrate through the walls you make to block it, and it is forever unwilling to destroy what you have made. No one can see through a wall, but I can step around it.” (13:2-4)
- “Watch your mind for the scraps of meanness.” **(14, 15)**
- “In your own unconscious, deeply repressed by the ego, is the declaration of your release:
God has given you everything.” (16:1)