

THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT
Lesson 450– April 14, 2013

/WELCOME TO BARAH MINISTRIES

Good Morning!

Let's Make a Mental Shift

Good morning! Proverbs, Chapter 23, Verse 7 says...

/PRO 23:7

For as he (a person) thinks within himself, so he is.

Thoughts are things. They are the navigation system of your soul. You may not control much in this life, but you certainly control the thoughts you allow to direct your life. Frankly, many of those thoughts are just “stinkin’ thinkin!’ We come to bible study to replace the thoughts that do not work with thoughts that do work. We come to bible study to take in the mind of Christ so that we can discard the ineffective human perspectives that keep us stuck.

<WHERE IS YOUR SOUL TUNED?>

Bible study is a time of RENEWING, a time to learn intentionally all of the marvelous divine assets we have at our disposal. Ephesians, Chapter 4, Verse 23 requests...

EPH 4:23

...that you be renewed (by God) in the spirit of your mind...

This time of renewing is not the time to polish your current “stinkin’ thinkin!’” It’s a time to discard old thoughts to make room for the new thoughts that the Lord has in store for you today. Now is the time to open yourself to the truth, and to let your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, through the power of God the Holy Spirit, prepare you to “in humility receive the Word implanted, which is able to save your souls.”

/MUSIC AND REFLECTION

Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ

Enjoy the Singing of His Praises

Destiny\

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As God prepares you for the RENEWING of your mind, let's hear June Murphy worship our God in song, while you let thoughts of how much the Lord Jesus Christ loves you occupy your mind. The opening song is DESTINY.

/OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray...\

We're grateful Heavenly Father for the privilege of studying the absolute truth...the Word of God...

Help us to understand that You see a difference in who we are and what we do...remind us that You love who we are unconditionally...thank you for paying for what we do and what we have done, especially when our actions are not in our best interests...help us to learn to be edified by the most powerful love that has ever existed...Your unconditional love for all mankind...

We ask this through the power of God the Holy Spirit...in Christ's name...Amen.

/WELCOME TO BARAH MINISTRIES

Rory Clark
Pastor-Teacher\

Welcome to Barah Ministries. My name is Rory Clark. My spiritual gift is Pastor-Teacher, a gift given to me by God for your benefit, for the building up of the body of Christ...God's Royal Family...into a unified force. Welcome to a ministry designed for people who want to develop a deep, intimate and personal relationship with the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

/TODAY'S STUDY

Unconditional Love Means Separating the Doer from the Deed

We continue our study of the second of the twenty-one categories of biblical thought that are part of the CREATOR vs. CREATURE CONFLICT series.

<CREATOR VS. CREATURE CONFLICT 21 C's SLIDE>

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We are learning about the magnificent aspects of our CREATOR'S essence at the second of the 21 C's... Tick Tock... what time is it on the CREATOR CLOCK?

<CREATOR CLOCK SLIDE no dial>

We're smack dab in the middle of the CREATOR CLOCK because at the hub of the CREATOR CLOCK is one of the most important words in our language... LOVE...it's the Greek word *agapao*, and it translates as unconditional love. Christianity is a life of unconditional love. First Corinthians, Chapter 13, Verse 13 says...

/1CO 13:13

But now faith, hope, love, abide (in the sphere of) these three; but the greatest of these is (unconditional) love.

First John, Chapter 4, Verse 7 says...

/1JO 4:7

Beloved (ones), let us love one another (unconditionally), for (unconditional) love is from (the source of) God; and everyone who loves (unconditionally) is born of God (they are believers in Christ) and (everyone) who loves (unconditionally) knows God.

Believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are able to love unconditionally. We can duplicate the unconditional love God has for us and we can direct it toward others from the source of our New Self. First John, Chapter 4, Verse 8 says...

/1JO 4:8

The one who does not love (unconditionally) does not know God, for God is (unconditional) love.

The Old Self does not love unconditionally, and the Old Self is not able to love unconditionally.

<NEW SPIRITUAL SPECIES SLIDE>

We have the Old Self and the New Self vying for control of our souls and

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our lives and our happiness. Galatians, Chapter 5, Verse 17 says...

<NO SLIDE>

GAL 5:17

For the flesh (the Old Self and its sin nature) sets its desire against (God) the (Holy) Spirit, and (God) the (Holy) Spirit (sets Himself) against the flesh (the Old Self and its sin nature); for these are in opposition to one another...

The CREATOR vs. CREATURE CONFLICT rages in our souls every day as two kingdoms battle for our soul's attention. Last week we began our study of the UNCONDITIONAL LOVE of God. I am convinced, that this subject should always be the first thing Christians learn. Frankly, if you don't understand and feel and experience unconditional love, and if you are not able to give unconditional love to others, you don't understand God, or Christianity, or yourself or life itself. Period. Without unconditional love as a foundation to your approach to any matter, no matter what it is, your life is common. How can you be an effective lover if you don't think of the other person first? How can you be an effective employee if you don't think of your boss first? How can you be an effective person if you don't think of others first? How can you enjoy your life if you don't think of yourself first? Yes all of these relationships can be powered with unconditional love. Do you love yourself unconditionally? Without unconditional love, giving and forgiving are tainted...life loses quite a bit of its meaning and purpose. Truly the sentiments expressed in First Corinthians, Chapter 13 are true...if we don't have unconditional love...we are nothing.

Parenting is a classroom for unconditional love. In the last lesson, I asked you parents, "Do you love your children unconditionally?" Undoubtedly your first reaction to that question is, "Yes!" Well my question for you would be, "Do your children think so?" Undoubtedly they do, because of the emotional tie that children have to parents, even when one or both parents are "schmucks," would make the answer "Yes" by default. But here's the real question...what does God see when God looks at your parenting? Does God see you reflecting His unconditional love to your children...that same unconditional love He has, both for you and for your children?

When we view our lives and ourselves from behind God's eyes, the answers

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to these questions are absolute and unmistakable. So in our first venture into unconditional love, we are looking at the subject of parenting, because our parenting will teach us a lot about unconditional love, both through a look at the unconditional love we have for our children, and through a look at the unconditional love that God has for us.

I'd say, if we were being honest, that we usually flunk the test of unconditional love in our thoughts and in our actions. Proverbs, Chapter 23, Verse 7 says...

/PRO 23:7

For as he (a person) thinks within himself, so he is.\

The primary thought that powers Christianity is unconditional love. This thought, and this thought alone, when lived, is THE best reflection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Every day, I get more and more excited about being a Christian. The excitement comes from knowing that there is nothing else like Christianity. It boggles the mind when people are at the other end of our God's unconditional love through us, because when you experience unconditional love from a human being who is reflecting God's love, it's so overwhelming that there is nothing you can say. Thanks don't even begin to capture the uncapturable beauty of being on the receiving end of unconditional love.

A key lesson, a key thought in the adoption of unconditional love is the ability to separate the doer from the deed. Unconditional love means separating the doer from the deed. Here's a question for reflection...

/QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

Do you know how to separate the doer from the deed?\

When you separate the doer from the deed, you realize that there is a difference between a person and the person's actions. We like labels...we tag people who engage in homosexuality as homos, and queers, and faggots, and lesbians...we call them homosexuals...we tag their person instead of the deed of homosexuality. When we are separating the doer from the deed, we recognize that if we have a friend, and that friend engages in homosexuality,

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that there is a difference between the person who is our friend and the act of homosexuality.

When we are playing sports and we make a mistake, we direct our self-castigating insults at our person. “Oh my God! I am so stupid! I can’t believe I missed that shot!” If we were being accurate and objective in our assessment, separating the doer from the deed, we would say to ourselves, that shot didn’t go where I wanted it to, but I still like myself. The deed didn’t work out...the shot...but the doer, the shooter is fine. You may be laughing a bit inside about this, and you may prefer to put yourself and others down by insulting the doer instead of the deed, but your God, in unconditional love does not do that at all. When you, as a believer in Christ, commit a personal sin...God sees your person and your actions separately.

As a believer in Christ, God has placed you into union with Christ, an idea we call positional sanctification. We are set apart for a series of privileges at the moment of salvation, among them the blessing of absolute righteousness. When God the Father looks at you as a believer in Christ, He sees the same thing in you that He sees in His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ...He see your absolute righteousness. You’ve heard me teach that idea for years. And when I do, I see the blank looks on your faces as if I have just poured water into a keyboard. <SHORT CIRCUIT SOUND> This reality, that God the Father sees you the same way He sees His Son, short circuits your imagination. Why? It’s mainly because you don’t see yourself that way. You don’t separate the doer and the deed. In your soul, there is no difference between you and your actions. You think of all the sins you commit, and you think that God could not possibly like anyone who is doing all those things. And frankly, there are certain sins that others commit which are pet peeves of yours, like homosexuality, and you reject people because of their deeds. So you can’t ever fathom that God the Father could see you the same way He sees His Son. Why does He see you that way? He sees you that way, because He is able to separate the doer from the deed. God is able to separate your person from your actions. God may not love your sins, but He surely loves you. Perhaps this give new meaning to this verse in your souls...

/JOH 3:16

“For God (the Father) so loved the world (all mankind...the doers), that He

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gave His only begotten (uniquely born) Son (the Lord Jesus Christ), that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.”

Take a five-minute break and we'll learn the significance of separating the doer from the deed in parenting.

/BREAK

I Love You Lord

When I Think About Home

Welcome back!

Turn in your bibles to Romans Chapter 7, Verse 14...as the apostle Paul struggled with his legalistic approach to Christianity...he struggled with the distinction between the doer and the deed. In the last half of Romans, Chapter 7, Paul has his breakthrough...

/ROM 7:14

For we know that the (Mosaic) Law is spiritual (because it comes directly from God), but I am of flesh (I still have a sin nature), sold into bondage to sin (and even though I am a believer I am often led astray by the Old Self).

/ROM 7:15

For what I (the chooser...through the volition in my soul) am doing (the deed), I do not understand; for I (the chooser) am not practicing what (deeds) I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing(s) I hate (to do).

Paul is in a quandary...he wants to do one thing but he is doing another...and he doesn't understand it.

/ROM 7:16

But if (I) I (the chooser) do the very thing (the deeds) I do not want to do (and I do), I agree with the (Mosaic) Law, confessing that the Law is good.

The Mosaic Law actually is good and noble and it accomplishes its purpose...it makes us aware of the sin nature that exists in us. Thus Paul is aware that there is a principle in play in the matter of his desires versus his actions.

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/ROM 7:17

*So now, no longer am I (the chooser) the one doing it (the deeds), but (the) sin (nature) which (in)dwells in me (in my body is doing the deeds). *

Paul has figured out that the doer of sins is the sin nature, and the deeds of the sin nature are personal sins.

/ROM 7:18

*For I (the chooser) know that nothing good (the old self...in)dwells in me, that is, in my flesh (the body); for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the (divine) good (the fruit of the Spirit) is not (present in my body). *

The Old Self and its sin nature produce personal sins. The New Self and its human spirit produce the fruit of the Spirit. Galatians, Chapter 5, Verses 22 and 23...

/GAL 5:22-23

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, //gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. *

Back to Romans, Chapter 7, Verse 19...

/ROM 7:19

*For the good that I (the chooser) want (to do), I do not do, but I (the chooser) practice the very evil that I do not want (to do). *

The volition of our soul...the chooser...gives permission to the sin nature to sin...but the volition does not actually do the sinning.

/ROM 7:20

*But if I (the chooser) am doing the very thing (the deeds) I do not want (to do), I (the chooser) am no longer the one doing it (the deeds), but (the) sin (nature) which (in)dwells in me (is the doer who is doing the deeds). *

/ROM 7:21

*I (the chooser) find then the principle that evil (the Old Self and its sin nature) is present in me (in the body), the one (the chooser) who wants to do (divine) good. *

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/ROM 7:22-23

*For I (the chooser) joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man (in the New Self), //but I see a different law in the members of my body (the Old Self), waging war against the law of my mind (the New Self) and making me a prisoner of the law of (the) sin (nature) which is in my members (the body). *

/ROM 7:24

*Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death (the Old Self and its sin nature)? *

Paul has discovered that his sin nature is doing the sinning, yet he still attributes the problem to himself, the chooser, calling his person wretched.

/ROM 7:25

Thanks be to God (the Father) through Jesus Christ our Lord (for being the One who sets me free)! So then, on the one hand I (the chooser) myself with my mind (the New Self) am serving the law of God (the law of liberty), but on the other, with my flesh (the Old Self and its sin nature am serving) the law of sin. \

So we have a battle between two doers and two sets of deeds. The Old Self and its sin nature are producing the deeds of the flesh...personal sins.

/GAL 5:19-21

*Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, //idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, //envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these... *

The New Self and its human spirit are producing the deeds of the spirit ...the fruit of the Spirit. Romans, Chapter 8, Verse 16 says...

/ROM 8:16

*(God) The (Holy) Spirit Himself testifies with our (human) spirit that we are children of God... *

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/2CO 10:5

*We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ... *

Unconditional love means separating the doer from the deed. Unconditional love separates the person from the person's actions. When we use this as parents, we realize that we can be graceful to our children as people, but not like at all what they are doing. When we give our children feedback, we can let them know how much we love them, but let them know simultaneously that we don't like what they are doing.

The Lord Jesus Christ loves the sinner. For believers, the sin nature was crucified at the Cross.

The Lord Jesus Christ paid for our personal sins.

The Lord Jesus Christ gave us a New Self that is not capable of sinning.

The Lord Jesus Christ gave us divine good works to walk in, that we might reflect His attitude in every situation.

The Lord Jesus Christ loves us unconditionally, and as we grow as Christians, we will learn to love others, and ourselves, the same way. When we do, we will be treating ourselves like the royalty that we are.

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/CLOSING SONG

We Are Royalty\

CLOSING VERSES

/PHI 1:6

For I am confident of this very thing, that He (God the Father) who began a (divine) good work in (the creation of) you will (keep on) perfect(ing) it until the day of Christ Jesus.

/PSA 37:1-2

Do not fret because of evildoers, Be not envious toward wrongdoers.//For they will wither quickly like the grass And fade like the green herb.

/PHI 4:7

And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard (garrison) your hearts and your minds (for those of you) in (union with) Christ Jesus.

/CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray...\

THANKS
INTERCESSION
PETITION

And we pray that you continue to shape the messages from this pulpit that are an accurate reflection of your person, your thinking, your work, your reputation and your essence..we ask this through the power of God the Holy Spirit, in Christ's name, Amen.

/Thanks for coming!

Thanks for watching!

Thanks for listening!

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