

## THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT

Lesson 457– April 28, 2013

### **/WELCOME TO BARAH MINISTRIES**

**Good Morning!**

**Let's Make a Mental Shift \**

Good morning! John, Chapter 1, Verse 17 says...

/JOH 1:17

*For the (Mosaic) Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through (the Lord) Jesus Christ.\*

We are part of the most magnificent age in divine history...the Church Age...Moses was the founder of a great nation, Israel...but the Lord Jesus Christ revealed the age of grace, the Church Age. In grace, our Lord made it clear that He has taken our mistakes out of the way of a relationship with Him...He does not hold our mistakes against us...in truth, our Lord has exposed the lies that have been leveled at His Person and His Work...and as believers in Christ we are the beneficiaries of this grace and this truth.

<WHERE IS YOUR SOUL TUNED?>

We come to bible study for RENEWING, to allow God the Holy Spirit to lead us into the truths of the Word of God, so we can know all the details of the Predetermined Plan of God the Father...so we can know the voluntary compassion and sacrifice of God the Son...and so we can know the amazing resurrection life of the uniquely born One, the Lord Jesus Christ. Romans, Chapter 12, Verse 2 says...

ROM 12:2

*...(keep on) be(ing) transformed by (God in) the RENEWING of your mind...*

Now is the time to let God 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

Light of Fellowship\

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As God prepares you for this RENEWING, let's hear June Murphy worship our Lord in song. The opening song is...LIGHT OF FELLOWSHIP.

### **/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 learn how you parent us...help us to learn your parenting philosophy...and help us to adopt your approach to parenting as a philosophy of our own both in the way we treat our children and in the way we treat each other.

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, given to me by God for your benefit, so I might serve you. 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 is a Parenting Philosophy\**

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>

We are learning about the magnificent aspects of our CREATOR'S essence at the second of the 21 C's. Who is the CREATOR? John, Chapter 1...Verses 1 to 3 and Verse 14 tell us who the CREATOR is...

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/JOH 1:1-2

*In the beginning was the Word (God the Son), and the Word was with God (the Father), and the Word (God the Son) was God (the same in essence as God the Father). // He (God the Son) was (in existence) in the beginning with God (the Father). \*

/JOH 1:3

*All things came into being through Him (God the Son), and apart from Him (God the Son) nothing came into being that has come into being. \*

/JOH 1:14

*And the Word (God the Son) became flesh (taking on the form of true humanity), and dwelt (tabernacled) among us, and we saw (beheld) His glory (His essence), glory as of the only begotten (uniquely born One, a gift) from (God) the Father, full of grace and truth. \*

The Lord Jesus Christ is the Creator of all things...the Lord Jesus Christ is God...and we are happy and excited to be here to worship Him today... Tick Tock...what time is it on the CREATOR CLOCK?

<CREATOR CLOCK SLIDE no dial>

It's First Corinthians Thirteen O'clock on the Creator Clock! 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. \*

At the center of the CREATOR CLOCK is one of the most important ideas in biblical Christianity... LOVE...it's the Greek word *agapao*...a word for unconditional love. Christianity is a lifestyle of unconditional love...and we are studying now what we would have done well to study from the very beginning, the unconditional love of God...because without an understanding of unconditional love, it's pretty tough to understand Christianity.

We are studying God's unconditional love, and we have chosen parenting as one of the examples where unconditional love is necessary.

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Parenting thrusts us into a leadership role. We are leaders because God places us in a position...the position of parent. As leaders, we have a responsibility to engage in leading, which means we are responsible for creating an atmosphere in which others want to follow. And we use leadership to influence results through the use of personal power.

### /LEADER

A position into which God places us...the position of parent\

### LEADING

Creating an atmosphere in which others want to follow

### LEADERSHIP

Influencing results through the use of personal power\

Are you aware of the responsibilities of the position you hold as a parent?

Are you aware of the atmosphere you create as a parent?

Do you influence your children with personal power?

How you are as a leader is completely influenced by your thinking. As a parent, are you thinking with unconditional love? Are you looking at your children with God's eyes? Are you looking at other people with God's eyes? As Christians, we must let God place unconditional love in our hearts through His Holy Spirit's enabling power so that we can be our best with people, especially our children.

Let's face facts about children...whether they are kids or whether they are teens, their souls are folly...they are all about play. Their energy level is exuberant. I was watching a mom with her young son the other day...he was probably about six...and he was just doing "boy things"...he was over active for the situation he was in. The negative messages were flying. No! Don't! Stop! No! Don't! Stop! No! Don't! Stop! When parents find themselves in a situation where they are repeating negative commands and they are not working, something has gone wrong. It's the time to stop and have a meaningful teaching moment about situational conduct, rather than ruining the rapport with children through a barrage of negative messages. These teaching moments don't have to be terse...but they often are when the

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situation is allowed to progress to upset condition. A lot of those moments can be aborted from the second they start.

For many parents, in their minds, their role as leader gives them the right to be a tyrant...an absolutist despot...one who can demand obedience. When you parent with your position, when you parent with your authority, you are engaging in the lowest and most ineffective level of leadership. When you have to say, “I’m the boss,” you’ve already lost. We often think it is our job to “hold our children accountable.” Can you successfully hold anyone accountable? In other words, can you successfully coerce anyone’s will? The resounding answer is, “No.” Actually a child has the responsibility to behave in a way that is appropriate for a situation, and it is our job as parents to teach them how to do it.

The “terrible two’s” is the time when parents find out they are not in charge of their prodigy. “No...I won’t” is “child code.” It means, “You and I are not the same person. I don’t have to obey you.” If God blesses you with children, He will always see to it that you get a child who can shape your area of weakness as a leader. If you are a tyrant, someone who believes in imposing authority without freedom, God will give you the disobedient child that forces you to adjust your approach. If you are an anarchist, someone who believes in freedom without authority...if you are a chaos master who is interested in being a child’s friend and not your child’s parent...God will give you a steamroller child who will run all over your permissiveness.

No one, not even your children, respects you solely because you are the parent. Parenting requires a strategy...it is not something that you do by the “seat of your pants” if you want it to go well. Our God has a plan...Acts, Chapter 2, Verse 23 says...

/ACT 2:23

*...this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.\*

Do you and your spouse have a parenting plan?

Parenting has three strategic phases...in phase 1 we INCULCATE INSTRUCTION...in phase 2 we HELP THEM GROW...in phase 3 we LET

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THEM GO. From ages 0 to 12, we as parents are to INCULCATE INSTRUCTION.

/PARENTING

Phase 1

INCULCATE INSTRUCTION

PRO 22:6

*Train up (dedicate yourself to) a child in the way he should go (narrow his path), even when he is old he will not depart (turn away) from it.\*

In phase one of parenting, the primary lesson is authority orientation. It's the time to teach the lesson of obedience. We discipline our children with instruction. Remember that discipline is...

/DISCIPLINE

Training in a character pattern.\

We want our children, when they are young (0 to 12), to learn obedience because it makes for a peaceful household and for a successful entrance into society.

/PARENTING

Phase 2

HELP TEENS BECOME ADULTS...HELP THEM GROW

EPH 6:4 b

*...bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.\*

From ages 13 to 18, we as parents are to HELP TEENS BECOME ADULTS...to help them grow. At thirteen, it's time to discard the strategy you used to get your children to the teen years, and to adopt a completely new strategy of parenting. You have taught your children, by this time, how to make decisions. Now you must teach them how to make mistakes.

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/PARENTING

Phase 3

LET THEM GO

GEN 2:24

*For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.\*

When they become 18, send them off to college or out into the world and butt the hell out. We are raising children to let them go. I know it's hard. But it is for both their good, and for yours. Take a five-minute break.

/BREAK

*In Your Presence*

*When I Think About Home\*

Welcome back!

So the question for parents is, “Do you, or do you and your spouse have a parenting plan?” If you don't, it's never too late to create one. Let's discuss the elements of a parenting plan. A plan has a vision.

/VISION

What things look like in perfect condition\

A vision is a prediction of what things will look like when they are in perfect condition. If you were concerned with your nutrition, for example, you might have a vision that says, “I only eat foods that contribute to a slim trim figure.” For Christian parents, perfect condition with their children might look like this...

/PARENTING VISION

My children are exposed incessantly to the gospel message, the good news concerning the Lord Jesus Christ's Person and Work, so they have the best chance to respond positively to it, so they can become believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. I never take my children's salvation for granted.\

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A vision points to a glorious future. God gives us vision statements all over the bible...First Peter, Chapter 5, Verse 10...

/1PE 5:10

*After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.\*

In your glorious future, you can count on being perfected, confirmed, strengthened and established by your God. Romans, Chapter 8, Verses 29 and 30...

/ROM 8:29

*For those whom He (God the Father) foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son (the Lord Jesus Christ), so that He (the Lord Jesus Christ) would be the firstborn among many brethren...\*

/ROM 8:30

*...and these whom He (God the Father) predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.\*

In your glorious future, you can count on being glorified as we learned in our last Lord's Supper. Second Peter, Chapter 3, Verse 9...

/2PE 3:9

*The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.\*

The Parenting Vision covers all three phases of your parenting plan. Within each phase of your parenting plan, there is a single objective, a single strategy, and a single set of tactics.

<PARENTING PLAN DIAGRAM>

Next, let's look at objectives. An objective is specific, measurable, and bound in time. For example...a 0 to 12 objective might be...



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/PARENTING OBJECTIVE - 0 to 12 Years Old

Teach my children to make great decisions on a moment-by-moment basis so they have adult souls to match their adult bodies when they leave my home at age 18.\

Our divine parent might say it this way...Proverbs, Chapter 22, Verse 6...

/PRO 22:6

*Train up a child in the way he should go (as God wants him to go), even when he is old he will not depart from it.\*

A 13 to 18 Years Old objective might be...

/PARENTING OBJECTIVE - 13 to 18 Years Old

Allow my children to make decisions and to experience the consequences of their decisions under my protection, to ensure they have adult souls to match their adult bodies when they leave my home at age 18.\

Galatians, Chapter 5, Verse 1 says...

/GAL 5:1

*It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.\*

A 18+ Years Old objective might be...

/PARENTING OBJECTIVE

Trust the teaching that I have provided to my children enough to allow them to live their lives as unto the Lord without my interference.\

Hebrews, Chapter 12, Verses 1 and 2...

/HEB 12:1-2

*...let us (believers in Christ) also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin (nature) which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, //fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith... \*

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Within each phase of your parenting plan, there is a single objective, a single strategy, and a single set of tactics.

<PARENTING PLAN DIAGRAM>

A strategy is...

/STRATEGY

What you will do for distinctive advantage.\

Here is an example of a parenting strategy...

/PARENTING STRATEGY

Count on the direction of the Word of God, creating an atmosphere of unconditional love for my children.\

/1CO 2:16

*For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD (so well), THAT HE WILL (be qualified to ) INSTRUCT HIM? But we (believers in Christ) have the mind of Christ.\*

If you want to create an atmosphere in which others will follow, unconditional love is a great atmosphere. So the question for parents is, “Do you have a parenting plan?” If you don’t, it’s never too late to create one. It’s especially important so that your parenting is like our God’s, on one page, in a world which loves creating the chaos of two parenting pages.

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### /CLOSING SONG

God is Faithful\

### CLOSING VERSES

/PRO 3:5-6

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding.//In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.\*

/DEU 31:8

*The LORD is the one who goes ahead of you; He will be with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed\*

/ISA 30:18

*Therefore the LORD longs to be gracious to you, And therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the LORD is a God of justice; How blessed are all those who long for Him.\*

### /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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