

## THE CREATOR-CREATURE CONFLICT

Lesson 459– May 5, 2013

### /WELCOME TO BARAH MINISTRIES

**Good Morning!**

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

Good morning! Titus, Chapter 3, Verses 5 to 7 say...

/TIT 3:5

*He (God the Father) saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in (self)-righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and (through) renewing by (God) the Holy Spirit...\*

/TIT 3:6-7

*...whom He (God the Father) poured out upon us richly through (the Lord) Jesus Christ our Savior, //so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of (the) eternal life (the zoe life).\*

What God the Father has begun with a plan, God the Holy Spirit is completing by means of His enabling power. God the Holy Spirit is our intimate companion and the lover and director of our souls.

<WHERE IS YOUR SOUL TUNED?>

Bible study is a time of RENEWING, a time to learn intentionally all of the marvelous divine assets that 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 a time to let yourselves be changed by God. In bible study our knowledge is changed...that renewing changes our thoughts, giving us new thoughts to think...and then those new thoughts show up in the form of a manifest Christianity that shines brightly for all to see.

Welcome to the place where our Mentor and Teacher, God the Holy Spirit, uses His enabling power prepare you to “in humility receive the Word implanted, which is able to save your souls.”

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### **/MUSIC AND REFLECTION**

*Be Occupied with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ*

Enjoy the Singing of His Praises

Fear Not\

As God prepares you for the RENEWING of your mind, let's hear June Murphy worship our Lord in song, while you let thoughts of how much the Lord Jesus Christ loves you occupy your mind. The opening song is FEAR NOT.

### **/OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray...\

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

Help us Father...to see...shed light on our use of the Light to illuminate our paths as You direct us through God the Holy Spirit to recognize and live our highest and best life...a life of unconditional love, reflecting your grace and truth to all we meet...

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.

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### **/TODAY'S STUDY**

#### **Unconditional Love Illuminates in the Darkness\**

Turn in your bibles to John, Chapter 1...let's begin at Verse 1....

/JOH 1:1

*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).\*

/JOH 1:2

*He (God the Son) was (existed) in the beginning (and lived in unity) with God (the Father).\*

/JOH 1:3

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

God the Son, who is the Lord Jesus Christ in His pre-incarnate state, the state in which the Lord existed before He came to earth as true humanity, is the SOURCE of all creation...we as Creatures are the intended RECIPIENTS of the SOURCE. John, Chapter 1, Verse 4...

/JOH 1:4

*In Him (God the Son) was (the zoe) life (the resurrection life), and the (zoe) life was the Light of men.\*

God is Light...and Light always overpowers darkness. The Christian lives in the Light of the zoe life, and in the Christian, there is no darkness at all. The darkness of Satan's kingdom cannot overpower the Christian and the Christian cannot ever again live in the darkness of spiritual death and unbelief. John, Chapter 1, Verse 5...

/JOH 1:5

*The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.\*

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The world, Satan’s kingdom of darkness, does not understand the Light... cannot comprehend the Light...does not want to know the Light...but fortunately for them, the Light wants to know them...John, Chapter 3, Verse 16...

/JOH 3:16

*“For God (the Father) so (much and unconditionally) loved the world, that He gave His only begotten (uniquely born) Son (the Lord Jesus Christ), that who(so)ever believes in Him shall not perish, but have (the) eternal life (the zoe life).”\*

Our God is accessible...the Lord Jesus Christ is the Light and He illuminates the path through all the darkness...our God and His Word gives us joy in the midst of the adversity of the world, and it encourages us to move on in the face of the world’s resistance. 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? Turn in your bibles to Isaiah, Chapter 40, Verse 18...the idols men use as a replacement for the CREATOR, the small “g” gods that they worship, are no match for the CREATOR...

/ISA 40:18

*To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare with Him?\*

No one is a match for Our God...He is incomparable...

/ISA 40:19

*As for the idol, a craftsman casts it, a goldsmith plates it with gold, and a silversmith fashions chains of silver.\*

This is the rich man’s idol...

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/ISA 40:20

*He who is too impoverished for such an offering selects a tree that does not rot; he seeks out for himself a skillful craftsman to prepare an idol that will not totter.\*

The poor man makes a more economical choice...he uses wood...next Isaiah challenges the knowledge of the hearers...

/ISA 40:21

*Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been declared to you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?\*

/ISA 40:22

*It is He (the Lord Jesus Christ) who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers (in His sight), who stretches out the heavens like a curtain and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.\*

The Lord Jesus Christ enshrouds the earth from His divine vantage point.

/ISA 40:23

*He it is who reduces rulers to nothing, who makes the judges of the earth meaningless.\*

The Lord is the Sovereign of the universe and nothing happens without His permission...He puts rulers in place and He removes them...He alone upholds the universe by the Word of His power.

/ISA 40:24

*Scarcely have they (rulers) been planted, scarcely have they been sown, scarcely has their stock taken root in the earth, but He merely blows on them, and they wither, and the storm carries them away like stubble.\*

/ISA 40:25

*“To whom then will you liken Me (the Lord Jesus Christ) that I would be his equal?” says the Holy One.\*

The Lord Jesus Christ, our Creator has no peer...this is the God you worship...

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/ISA 40:26

*Lift up your eyes on high and see who has created these stars, the One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name; because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His power, not one of them is missing.\*

The Lord Jesus Christ keeps the stars in orbit and has never lost a one of them... “you placed the stars in the sky and you know them by name” says Chris Tomlin in the song, “Indescribable...” our amazing God!

/ISA 40:27

*Why do you say, O Jacob, and assert, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the Lord, and the justice due me escapes the notice of my God?”\*

When you look around at all the changes that this world is going through... at all the saber rattling by world powers... at all of the rejection of true values and the adoption of false values, do you think God has gone off duty? Think again. Our God is in charge.

/ISA 40:28

*Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable.\*

God is not watching us from a distance, He is an up close and personal God... the very hairs on our head are all numbered.

/ISA 40:29

*He gives strength to the weary, and to him who lacks might He increases power.\*

Are things kind of rough for you right now? The Lord has you covered.

/ISA 40:30

*Though youths grow weary and tired, and vigorous young men stumble badly...\*

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/ISA 40:31

*...yet those who wait for the Lord Will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.\*

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 or the Lord Jesus Christ. Take a five-minute break.

/BREAK

*Give Love*

*When I Think About Home\*

Welcome back! 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.\*

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What day, what time, and what moment last week did you not require unconditional love? Let me repeat that question. What day, what time, and what moment last week did you not require unconditional love?

If you're telling the truth, there was not a time last week when you didn't need God's unconditional love...and there wasn't a time last week when you didn't need unconditional love from others (grace for your mistakes)...and there wasn't a time last week when others didn't need unconditional love from you.

An NBA player announced that he is gay last week...Jason Collins became the first active player in one of the four major United States pro sports leagues to come out as gay. Jason Collins says he is a Christian. Most public comments about Jason's coming out have been supportive, with the exception of a comment from ESPN reporter Chris Broussard, who commented that homosexuality is "an open rebellion to God." He said the bible says that if you are "openly living in unrepentant sin" that the bible "does not characterize that person as a Christian." It's unfortunate when people like Broussard, perhaps Christians, who know nothing about the bible come out with public opinions and interpretations of biblical thought. For the record, a Christian is anyone who believes in the Lord Jesus Christ... Acts, Chapter 16, Verse 31 says...

/ACT 16:31

*"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and (everyone in) your household (who also believes)."*

Have you ever heard of the concept of "living in sin?" It is a legalistic term typically applied to a man and a woman who are living together. I have a question for you...what day, what time, and what moment last week were you not "living in sin?" It always seems that we are subject to legalistic viewpoints as we strive to be obedient to the will of God...viewpoints that skew accurate thought...that confuse us...that get us to doubt and to question our relationship with God.

The study of unconditional love is a study of relationships. The study of unconditional love illuminates. Do you want a deep intimate and personal relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? Well just how deep, and how intimate, and how personal are you willing to go? Because



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unconditional love takes you all the way! How do you feel about the people that others, like Chris Broussard, consider despicable? Where within you is the attitude of conditional love lurking? Do you reflect God's unconditional love? Is your life a reflection of your deep and intimate and personal relationship with the Savior?

What is a deep relationship?

/DEEP

It extends far down from the surface\

What is an intimate relationship?

/INTIMATE

A close, warm, intricate and familiar association suggesting privacy and connection\

What is a personal relationship?

/PERSONAL

Individual...intended just for you...\

What is a deep, intimate and personal relationship?

/A DEEP INTIMATE AND PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP

An individual involvement with another being...intended just for you... containing the elements of dependence, independence and interdependence...extending far beneath the surface...a close, warm, intricate and familiar association suggesting privacy and connection.\

Turn in your bibles to Matthew, Chapter 10, Verse 39...unconditional love illuminates in the darkness...more than anything...it illuminates the necessity for a death on your part...Matthew, Chapter 10, Verse 39...

/MAT 10:39

*“He who has found his life will lose it, and he who has lost his life for My (the Lord Jesus Christ’s) sake will find it.”\*

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Christians voluntarily give their lives in obedience to Christ...turn in your bibles to Matthew, Chapter 16, Verse 25...the Lord repeats this message in Matthew, Chapter 16...

/MAT 16:25

*“For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.”\*

Turn in your bibles to Luke, Chapter 14, Verse 26...

/LUK 14:26

*“If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate (love less than Me) his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple.”\*

The Lord expects to be number one in our lives. So why do we gravitate to the offer of legalism? We gravitate to legalism because it is shallow... because it allows us to pretend...because it gives us a false sense of values... because it allows us to hide...legalism is an “orderly system” that insulates us with a set of “right things” to do to give us the feeling that we are living the Christian Way of Life. Unfortunately, when we buy into legalism we kill unconditional love...in fact we become the opposite of unconditional... we become judgmental and subjective and opinionated...and we kill any real chance for relationships...we adopt the deadness of legalism which sucks the passion out of our relationships. And as the passion is sucked from our relationships, we become disillusioned. The study of unconditional love illuminates the falseness of the Old Self systems we have subscribed to and invites us to discard them...NOW! Unconditional love is a cross...Luke, Chapter 14, Verse 27 says...

/LUK 14:27

*“Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.”\*

How do you feel about people when they are despicable? How do you feel about people when they break your heart? How do you feel about people when they hurt you deeply? Unconditional love illuminates your feelings during these times. Unconditional love is something we get from God...it’s a gift...we are to enjoy it for ourselves and then we are to pass it on to others. Can you imagine what it would be like if God thought about us the things

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we think of ourselves? We don't give ourselves a break very often. Sure we don't separate the doer from the deed as it relates to other people...but even less do we separate the doer from the deed in relation to ourselves.

Unconditional love is not easy. So as we learn it, prepare for the bumpy road of inspection. As we construct a biblical Christianity in our souls, we will be required to discard a ton of spiritual coat hangers from the doctrinal closet that just don't rightly manifest a Christianity that is consistent with faithful Christ who loves "whosoever" "UN..." unconditionally.

### /CLOSING SONG

He's Been Faithful\

### 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

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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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